



# AGAWAM Advertiser-News

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"Your Hometown Newspaper"

March 26, 1998

No Formal Vote Taken...

## Zoning Reform Gets Initial Nod From Council

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Although no formal vote was taken at Monday night's special Town Council meeting, the 10 councilors present were unanimous in agreeing with some aspects of the Mayor's plan to reform the town's zoning code.

In an informal workshop session, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson outlined his plan to review and revise the town's zoning code to reflect the community's current goals and objectives rather than the outdated values and judgments of the 1950's, 1960's, and 1970's when most of the current zoning ordinances were written.

Also, many types of current development, including supermarkets, cell phone towers, and drive-thru windows, were not even envisioned when the planners believed the commercial zones created along the town's major arteries would be home to mom-and-pop style businesses. And the zoning code provides little in the way of standards to guide the Zoning Board of Appeals in making decisions on applications for special permits and special use permits, Johnson said.

"We should set a blueprint for Agawam based on what people want today, rather than what they wanted in the 50's," Johnson said.

Johnson is proposing a three-part plan to overhaul the zoning code, beginning with the creation of a more accurate and detailed zoning map to replace the current outdated map. The second part of the Mayor's plan calls for the hiring of an outside consultant to work with town residents, local business, and community leaders to prepare a new Master Plan to replace the plan prepared in 1976. Finally, Johnson wants to hire a consultant to review and revise the zoning code using input from the community and elected officials.

Johnson said he was looking for consensus from the council on creating a new zoning map and on beginning the process of researching the way other communities have updated their zoning codes, including cost estimates for hiring a consultant and a timeline for completion of the project.

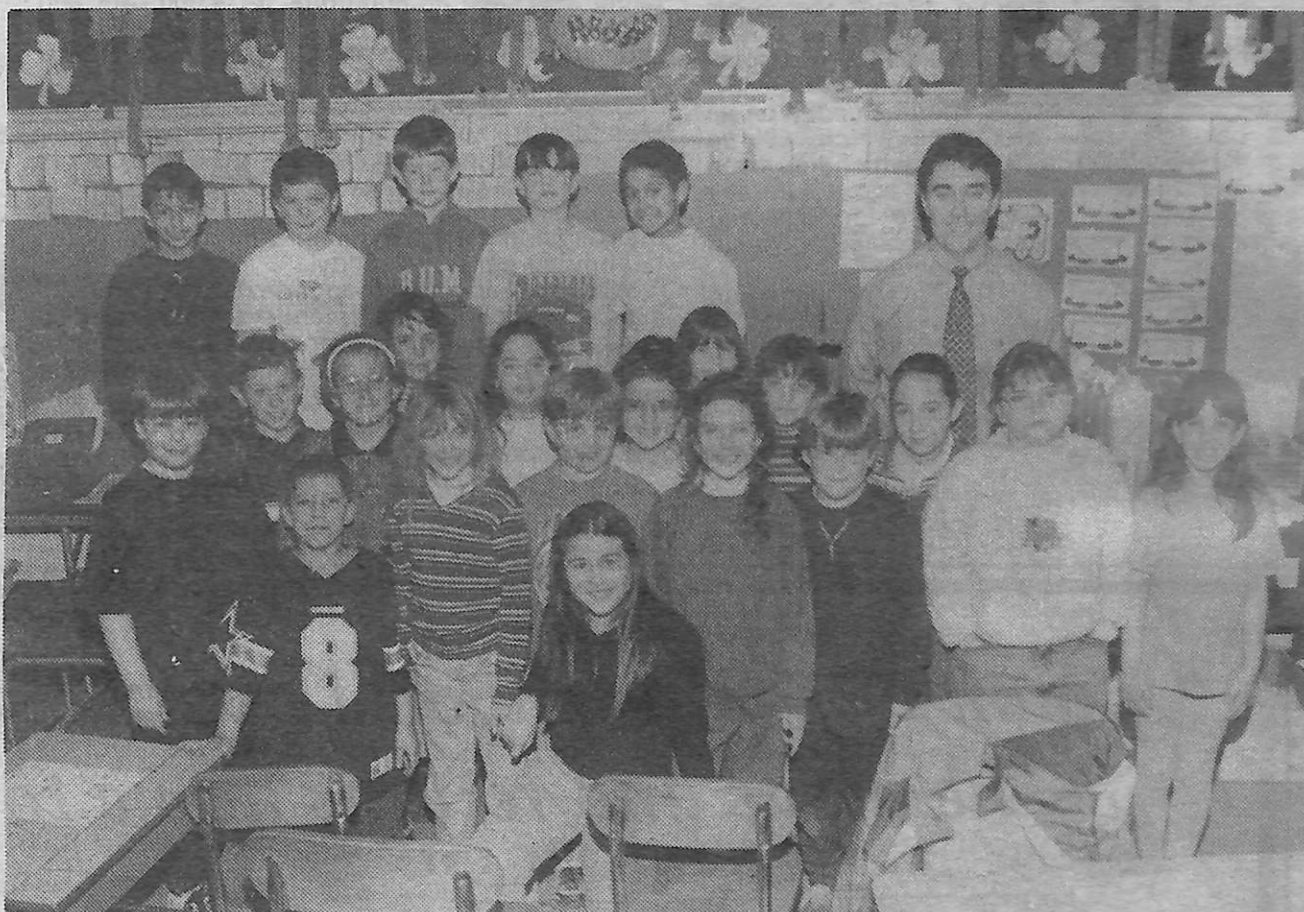
Johnson said an independent consultant was necessary because Planning Director Deborah Dachos, as the town's only professional planner, does not have the time to take on an overhaul of the zoning code. Furthermore, Johnson said an independent consultant wouldn't "walk to the plate with friends or enemies" as would someone in the administration.

### Rheault Fully Agrees With Johnson...

Council President Donald M. Rheault said he was in full agreement with the Mayor on the need for a new zoning map. He encouraged the Mayor to begin the preliminary work of investigating the costs involved in his plan before the council makes any formal commitment to the process.

SEE ZONING REFORM - Page 2...

## Keenan Reads To Clark School Students...



ON FRIDAY, MARCH 20TH, State Representative Daniel F. Keenan paid a visit to Clark Elementary School. During his time there, he read to the youngsters in Room 15 (pictured above). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## PUBLIC NOTICE YOU'RE ENTITLED TO MORE SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

The federal government has many different programs you might qualify for which will increase your monthly Social Security check. The government offers free information about these programs, but it can be difficult to know which programs you qualify for. It is your right to receive the maximum benefits to which you are eligible. For more information, see Page 5.



**ZONING REFORM - from Page 1...**

Having learned from past failed efforts to gain council approval on zoning change initiatives, Johnson said he was seeking to enlist the council's help and support early in the process in order to avoid wasting time and money investigating zoning reform (if there is not a consensus on the council to begin the long, arduous, and expensive process). Johnson estimated it would take close to two years to complete the project.

While the councilors seemed unanimous in agreeing with Johnson on the urgency of updating the zoning map, some councilors raised concerns about other aspects of the Mayor's plan.

Councilor Edward Caba said any zoning reform should focus on undeveloped open space. "We already have zoning in place and there's nothing we can do without causing a revolution," Caba said.

A professional project manager, Councilor Robert Young wants to see a detailed, specific project plan documenting roles and responsibilities before he signs on to the zoning review process.

"I know nothing about zoning, but I know a lot about project planning. And I know the most important reason projects fail is a poor project plan or no project plan," Young said.

Rheault indicated that the council would take advantage of Young's expertise in project planning and that the council's Zoning Review Committee would be actively involved in the Mayor's zoning review plan.

Councilor Gina Letellier, who chairs that committee, said she believes the council can address issues like a temporary sign ordinance and setting standards for special permit approvals without the help of a consultant.

Councilor Nancy Thompson said she and Councilor Jill Simpson have been working with Ms. Dachos and Town Solicitor Thomas Locke on an adult business zone ordinance which will be much simpler than the proposal which had been under consideration two years ago. "Attorney Locke is checking the ordinance for form and legality and I'm hoping it will be coming to you in this Thursday's (information) packet."

Council Vice-President Robert Magovern was absent.

*Please remember that our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon...*

**Johnson Addresses Special Town Council Meeting...****Agawam Faces \$\$\$ Crisis If State Won't Take On County's Liabilities Along With Assets**

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

It's an issue so esoteric that eyes glaze over and yawns are inevitable whenever politicians try to explain it.

But, according to Mayor Christopher C. Johnson, once people understand the financial implications of the county's unfunded pension liability, the standard reaction is, "But, that's patently unfair."

At Monday night's special Town Council meeting, Johnson said, "This is potentially the most serious financial threat the Town of Agawam has faced, ever. Even Proposition 2½ pales by comparison because of the length and cost of the liability."

When the county government ceases to exist on July 1st, the remaining members of the Hampden County Retirement System will be forced to pay for the portion of county retirees' pensions that used to be paid by the county, unless the state agrees to pick up the county's liabilities when it takes over the county's assets.

As the largest community to participate as a member of the County Retirement System, Agawam will be faced with picking up the largest share of the county's pension liability. For the first half of the next fiscal year alone, the town is being assessed an additional \$474,000 over and above the amount the town is already paying to fully fund the pensions of Agawam municipal retirees.

Because employee contributions to the pension fund are not enough to cover the cost of their pensions, the member communities of the County Retirement System make up the difference in annual assessments. The money paid into the retirement system by the member communities is the "unfunded pension liability."

When the county no longer exists, the remaining members of the retirement system will pick up the county's unfunded pension liability, according to the state's interpretation of the legislation calling for the abolition of county government,

Johnson said.

Because they are not members of the retirement system, the county's largest cities and towns will not have to pay any of the cost of fully funding the pensions of county retirees. Springfield, Holyoke, Chicopee, Westfield, and West Springfield all have retirement systems of their own. Agawam and the smaller towns of the county will be assessed for the county's portion of the unfunded pensions unless the state changes its position.

**"We're The Ones Getting Stuck..."**

"The state is leaving the unfunded pension liability only to the small towns who participate in the county retirement fund. We're the ones getting stuck with the bill while the largest communities get off scot-free," Johnson said.

Among the options Johnson presented for the council's consideration:

- Do nothing and hope there is a legislative or administrative solution at the state level.
- Remove Agawam from the County Retirement System in a long and costly process that would not be likely to receive state approval.
- File corrective legislation with the help of the other affected communities.
- Consider suing the state to remedy the problem.

After listening to the Mayor's presentation, Town Council President Donald M. Rheault called for an executive session of the council "to discuss strategy with respect to potential litigation because an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the town."

Johnson said there is no way to estimate how much the town will eventually have to pay in order to fully fund county pensions, but the liability will exist for at least the next 30 to 40 years.

Johnson said neither he nor the councilors could comment on what was discussed at the closed door council session.

*You turn our pages for all the hometown news...*

*"A man travels the world over in search of what he needs and returns home to find it."*

-George Moore



If you are trying to find your way through all of the real estate laws governing your home purchase, you need a knowledgeable attorney who can show you the way to owning a home.

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Ultra Light Box - Buy 2, Get 1 FREE  
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30¢ Off Packs

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Eagle Ctns. - \$2.00 Off  
Pyramid Ctns. - \$3.00 Off

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New Yorker Swiss Cheese	\$3.99 Lb.
Bel Gioioso Mild Provolone Cheese	\$3.29 Lb.
Imported Ham	\$3.89 Lb.
Wunderbar German Bologna	\$1.59 Lb.
DePalma Mortadella	\$2.99 Lb.
Carando Hot Capicola	\$3.99 Lb.
Centurion Hard Or Genoa Salami	\$3.79 Lb.
Eye-Of-The-Round Roast Beef	\$5.19 Lb.
Hudson Gourmet Pepper/Honey Turkey Breast	\$4.79 Lb.

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## Letters To The Editor

### Police Chief Campbell Warns Elderly Residents About Fraud

#### To The Editor: An Open Letter To The Citizens Of The Town Of Agawam:

I am writing to call attention to a crime that has become more and more prevalent throughout the country as well as here in the Town of Agawam: fraud and abuse against the elderly.

The Agawam Police Department has joined with TRIAD, a national program that brings senior citizens, service providers, and law enforcement together, to develop this public service announcement campaign to call attention to this growing problem.

Every law enforcement agency in Hampden County, the local police departments, the state police, Attorney General Scott Harshbarger, District Attorney William Bennett, Sheriff Michael Ashe, the Postal Inspectors, the Massachusetts Bankers Association, the Community Bankers Association, as well as several media outlets, housing developments, and other groups have come together to address this issue at the same time. By having all these groups speaking with one voice, we are sure that every senior in Hampden County will learn something that will help them.

Scams and frauds come in all sizes. With the warm weather comes home improvement projects, and with that comes scam artists. Be aware of "inspectors" or uninvited contractors telling you about rotting roofs or other items that need replacing. Be watchful of someone telling you your home needs spraying for bugs, mildew, raccoons, or other things.

Most contractors are honest and can be trusted, but it is your right to ask for a state license number and to check their work record with the Attorney General's Office for Consumer Protection or to call the Better Business Bureau.

Be wary of a contractor who tells you that the special low price for repair work is only good for that day. Also, don't pay in full until the work is done, and don't pay for supplies unless they are actually on site. Remember, no respectable business would apply pressure tactics to make a sale. Ask questions, take your time, get help.

A scam like this can't happen to you? Well, it has happened here in Agawam.

Your money is safe in the bank. Don't let a phony bank examiner tell you to withdraw money so they can catch a crooked teller. Believe me, you won't see that money again! In fact, don't let anyone pressure you into withdrawing money from the bank or other accounts. Of course, it is your money and you can use it as you wish, but if an acquaintance, a stranger, or even a family member is pressuring you for money, ask yourself why.

If the phone rings and someone tells you "you've won," be suspicious. Remember, you never have to pay a service fee or taxes up front to win a big prize. If someone needs a credit card number, a bank account number, or any other personal information from you, hang up. You don't want to do business with them.

The same rule applies to things you get in the mail. If they want personal information, don't bother. Throw it away.

If you have been tricked and have lost money, I am sure you are heartbroken and perhaps embarrassed. This is understandable. But, please, don't believe it when you are told that someone will get your money back for you for a small fee. That's a scam, too!

If you have been a victim, please call us. We will do all we can to try to catch the people who did this and get your money returned. We can get the word out so it doesn't happen to someone else. If you are not sure or have a funny feeling about a business dealing, go with your instincts. Call someone.

The purpose of the "DON'T BE FOOLED ON APRIL FOOL'S DAY CAMPAIGN" is to get the word out to every senior citizen in Agawam. We can eliminate this type of crime in our community if we educate ourselves and look out for each other. Please join the Agawam Police Department and every other law enforcement agency in Hampden County and pass these important messages along.

For more information on frauds, scams, and fighting elderly abuse, call the Agawam Senior Center, telephone number 786-0400, ext. 242. Through them, you will find a wide variety of helpful and enjoyable programs for seniors. Give them a try.

Remember the old line, "If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is." That is still good advice.

Sincerely,  
Robert D. Campbell  
Chief of Police  
Town of Agawam

### Agawam Ski Parents Assoc. Thanks Local Businesses

#### To The Editor:

The Agawam Ski Parents Association would like to thank the following businesses for their participation in the 1997-1998 Agawam High School Ski Saver Card:

E.B.'s, Malone's, Friendly's, Luigi's, Corner Deli, McDonald's, Pizza Hut, Golden Nozzle, Ski-In, Country Flowers and Gifts, Partners, Sand Trap, Letalien Jewelers, and Fenton's.

Thanks to these sponsors' great discount offers, the Agawam Ski Saver Card was a tremendous success. Funds were raised to provide equipment, a banquet, gifts, and scholarships. Their willingness to support the students of our community is greatly appreciated.

The parents and student racers would also like to thank the **Agawam Auxiliary Police Association** for their generous donation of \$100 and all the residents who purchased a card.

Due to popular demand and continued community support, the new and improved 1998-1999 Agawam Ski Saver Cards will be on sale starting May 15th. Watch *The Agawam Advertiser News* for information.

### The Agawam Ski Parents Association District Learning Team Seeks Support At Meetings

#### To The Editor:

On Monday, March 30th, the monthly meeting of the Agawam District Learning Team will take place in the Junior High School cafeteria at 7:00 p.m.

Many educational issues concerning our system, including communication, class size, and promotion policies will be on the agenda.

Please plan on attending, even if it's just to listen. We'd love to have you!

Sincerely,  
The Agawam District Learning Team

## IRS Provides Info On Earned Income Tax Credit

With the April 15th deadline for filing 1997 tax returns on the horizon, the IRS would like to remind eligible taxpayers to claim the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The EITC is a refundable credit for low-income workers.

"Based on tax returns filed last year, over 1,500 taxpayers in the Springfield area qualified for the Earned Income Tax Credit, but did not claim it," said Bill Caine, Acting IRS District Director. Since a substantial number of qualifying taxpayers have not claimed the credit in the past, the IRS is placing an emphasis on answering EITC questions as part of the extended hours of service being offered during the last three weeks of the filing season.

Taxpayers can go to the IRS office located at 1550 Main Street, Springfield to receive information on EITC and to get assistance in preparing their tax returns. The office is open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Beginning March 28th through April 11th, the office will be open Saturday, from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Taxpayers who would like more information about EITC can use these free IRS services:

- telephone assistance (1-800-828-1040), Monday through Saturday, 7:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.,
- the IRS Web site - [www.irs.ustreas.gov](http://www.irs.ustreas.gov), or
- IRS Publication 596, *Earned Income Credit* by calling 1-800-829-3676.

The EITC could be worth a few dollars or as much as \$3,656. The amount of the EITC is based on earned income and the number of children in the household. Those who do not have children may still qualify for a limited EITC. To claim the EITC on the 1997 tax return, taxpayers need income of less than:

- \$29,290 - and two or more qualifying children,
- \$25,760 - and one qualifying child, or
- \$9,770 - and no qualifying children.

Caine added a cautionary note, "Taxpayers should be careful to use correct social security numbers when filling out tax forms. If they don't, their tax returns and any refunds due may be delayed."

## ADVERTISER NEWS

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Saturday, March 28th  
"Pancake Breakfast" at the Springfield  
Turnverein, 176 Garden St., Feeding Hills  
9:00 to 11:30 a.m.  
Adults, \$3; kids under 10, \$2

Sunday, March 29th  
Ninth Annual Lunker Derby  
At the Mawaga Club, 377 Adams St., Agawam  
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Cost: \$15 (which includes a breakfast that  
will take place from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m.)

Thursday, April 2nd  
Ziti and meatball supper  
(sponsored by the Agawam Lioness Club)  
At Agawam Lions Den (Big E grounds, W. Spfld.)  
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
Cost: \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children (12 & under)  
Tickets available from club members or at the door

Thursday, April 2nd  
Agawam Community Artists meeting and  
program (featuring potter Shelly Thomas)  
At Captain Leonard House, 633 Main St., Agawam  
7:00 p.m.  
Call 786-3689 for further information

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*If you turned to this page looking for a Social Security increase, you have been scammed!!!*

## **"Don't Be An April Fool" Campaign Is Aimed At Protecting The Elderly From Fraud**

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

The day set aside to celebrate the fine art of the practical joke is taking a serious turn this year in an effort to help senior citizens protect themselves from being taken advantage of by frauds and swindlers.

"Don't Be An April Fool" is the message that local authorities hope will help raise awareness among senior citizens of how easily people can be taken in by a scam.

Next Wednesday, April 1st, federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, in cooperation with social service agencies and business leaders, are launching a crime prevention campaign aimed at protecting senior citizens from becoming victims of scam artists.

According to Agawam S.A.L.T. Council Chairman Oliver Muldrew, April Fool's Day seemed the perfect time to remind senior citizens that they are often targeted as easy prey by fraudulent mail, phone, and advertising schemes, as well as by home repair frauds.

Muldrew explained that the idea of using a fake ad promising help with getting an increase in Social Security benefits was just one strategy developed by the Hampden County TRIAD (an umbrella organization linking senior citizen advocates to law enforcement) to help people see how easily they might become the victim of a fraud.

"We want people to know that if something sounds too good to be true, it probably isn't," Muldrew said. "If anyone read the ad and then turned to the page for more information as directed, they should know they are vulnerable to frauds."

### **Several Activities Scheduled**

Muldrew said the TRIAD is sponsoring several activities next week, including a mock trial to be put on by the students at the Rebecca Johnson School in Springfield and consumer alerts on local television newscasts.

The Dan Yorke Show on WHYN AM 560 will feature guests from the Hampden County TRIAD during the first hour of the April 1st program.

In Agawam, the S.A.L.T. Council is sponsoring a poster contest for junior high students. The winners will be announced next Friday and the top three will be awarded savings bonds donated by Westbank.

"Don't Be An April Fool" fliers will be distributed at the Senior Center daily luncheon, through the Meals on Wheels Program, and in Northeast Utilities bills, Muldrew said.

According to Police Chief Robert D. Campbell, spring brings an annual migration of home repair frauds coming from the south, promising bargains in driveway or roof repairs. One of the come-ons commonly used by home repair frauds is to claim they have just finished a job in the neighborhood and find themselves with leftover material they need to use up.

"What people don't realize is that reputable contractors don't carry around extra materials. They'd go broke if they didn't know how much materials they'll need for each job," Campbell said. "If anyone tries this on you, they are either too stupid to stay in business or they are trying to cheat you."

Another ploy senior citizens should be leery of is the claim of sponsorship or the endorsement of social service agencies.

According to Council on Aging (COA) Director Richard Mundo, there were a number of complaints last year from seniors who were contacted by fraudulent insurance salesmen claiming to have the endorsement of the COA.

"The whole thing was a scam," Mundo said. "We would never sanction or sponsor any company."

## **FireWise...**

by Fire Chief David Pisano  
**Spring Cleaning...**

When it's time for spring cleaning, remember a clean house is a safer house.

The Agawam Fire Department reminds you that trash, boxes, piles of clothes, and other combustibles in the home are fuel for a fire. Getting rid of them will help reduce the chance of fire in your home.

When storing heating devices to be used again next winter, make sure electric cords are not frayed or separating. Remember to remove kerosene before storing your kerosene heater. Often overlooked is the electric blanket. Follow the washing, care, and storage instructions that come with the blanket.

Clean out storage areas such as garages, attics, closets, sheds, and basements on a regular basis. Even warehouses are limited to the amount of storage they can safely keep.


Don't allow areas in your home to become tempting fuel for a fire. Throw away or give away items you are no longer using. Clutter gives fire a place to start and creates obstacles that might prevent escaping safely.

Oily rags can ignite without a heat source because they produce their own heat. Throw them out or store them in a closed metal container. This includes dusting rags used with a furniture polish or spray.

For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

**Why not surprise your loved ones with a "Happy Birthday" ad. They cost just \$30, so bring in yours today...**

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\* When you buy one meal at regular price, your second meal of equal value or less will be deducted. Offer good on entrees only. \$5.00 bar minimum required. Not redeemable in combination with any other promotion or Early Bird Specials. 15% service charge will be added to your bill.

Coupon

Not Valid On Holidays

Wednesday and Thursday Only

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With This Coupon

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This coupon is not redeemable on specially priced entrees, lunch menu items, or early bird specials. Only one coupon per couple, per visit. Coupon is not redeemable for cash or with any other coupon or special. Applicable taxes paid by bearer.



## Rep. Keenan Takes Assessment Tests

Trial Run Of Tests Will Be Administered This Spring In Schools

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan recently participated in a friendly competition in an exam comprised of sample questions from the upcoming Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System tests (MCAS) with three colleagues on the Education Committee matched against five members of the State House press corps. The results give the victory to the legislators.

Using straight percentages and simple averages, the legislators scored an average of 79.5 percent compared to 77.6 percent for the press corps.

"It was a lot of fun," Keenan said. "Science was definitely the most difficult, but overall it was not as hard as I thought it would be."

The mock test included 23 questions, drawn from sample materials obtained from the Department of Education. The questions came from the 10th grade version of the test, and fell into three categories: mathematics, science and technology, and English language arts.

The actual MCAS tests include a section on history, but those sample questions are not yet available.

"I wanted an idea of what the students will go through when they take these tests," Keenan said. "I really think this will be stressful for both teachers and students, and I wanted to put myself in their shoes."

Having now felt the heat of that hot seat, Keenan said that far from being discouraged, he was pleasantly surprised to find that the test seems do-able and appropriate.

"I'm not sure whether by 10th grade you would have covered all that, but I do think it would be a fair test to have to pass in order to receive a diploma from high school," he said. "And ultimately, that's the goal."

Schools will begin administering trial runs of the assessment tests this spring. The high stakes examinations do not begin until 2001, when the first class of 10th-graders will take the tests as prerequisites for receiving a diploma.

Students who do not pass the test the first time can re-take it each subsequent year until their class graduates. The Department of Education has not yet decided what it will do with students who do not pass on their first three tries.

Keenan concluded that the Department of Education has not yet determined how it will score the test.

## Ashe Reception Slated For April 16th

The Committee to Re-elect Michael J. Ashe, Jr. will hold a reception in honor of Sheriff Michael J. Ashe, Jr. on Thursday, April 16th from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Chez Josef in Agawam.

Hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Ticket information is available by calling James Tremble at 567-1628, and tickets will also be available at the door.

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## "The Year Of The MA State Forests & Parks"



**MORE THAN 500 GUESTS** gathered for the gala Kickoff of the Centennial Celebration of the Massachusetts State Forests and Parks System which was held January 26th at the State House in Boston. Participants included (from left to right) Bob Carr, Supervisor at Tolland State Forest; Peter C. Webber, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Management; State Representative Daniel Keenan; Steve Mollison, DEM's Assistant Regional Supervisor of Connecticut River Valley Region; Doug Poland, Regional Supervisor of Berkshire County; and Dave Curley, Director of Licensing for the University of Massachusetts. Curley, an Agawam resident, is consulting with DEM on their new Centennial Merchandising Initiative. DEM has planned a year-long series of Centennial events, exhibits, and publications, and Governor Paul Cellucci has proclaimed 1998 as "The Year of the Massachusetts State Forests and Parks" in honor of the 100th anniversary.

## Legislation Seeks To Lower Property Taxes For Seniors Who Perform Community Service

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has announced initial Senate passage of legislation which she endorsed to permit towns to provide seniors the opportunity to perform community service in exchange for a reduction in property taxes.

"This is a home run for seniors," Melconian said. "Seniors could provide our communities with their time, energy, and talents in return for a modest savings on their property taxes. It is a win-win situation for seniors and cities and towns in the Commonwealth. Seniors have so much to offer."

The proposed legislation would authorize the

board of selectmen or city council to establish a real estate tax deduction of up to \$500 per year for individuals over 65 years of age. To earn this deduction, seniors would be required to perform services to the city or town, and receive no more than \$5 an hour toward a deduction. A record of service would be kept by the city or town and forwarded to the assessor to be reflected on the actual tax bill.

The legislation passed the House of Representatives earlier this year. If you have any questions or would like additional information on the bill, please call Mike Walsh in Senator Melconian's district office at 786-6033.



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## Child Car Seat Safety Seminar At Agawam Police Headquarters...



THE AGAWAM POLICE DEPARTMENT and the Western Mass. SafeKids Coalition conducted a child car seat safety seminar in the Community Room at police headquarters. Participants of the seminar received a certificate redeemable at SERV-U Baby Castle towards the purchase of an infant or convertible child car seat. IN LEFT PHOTO: Sergeant Steven Draghetti and Agawam Police Chief Robert Campbell demonstrate how a child car seat works. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Michael Horowitz of SERV-U Baby Castle with Draghetti, Campbell, and Jeff M. Sauder (Hampden County Traffic Safety). A second seminar is scheduled for Saturday, April 4th. Anyone interested in attending the second seminar should register by calling 786-4767 by April 2nd. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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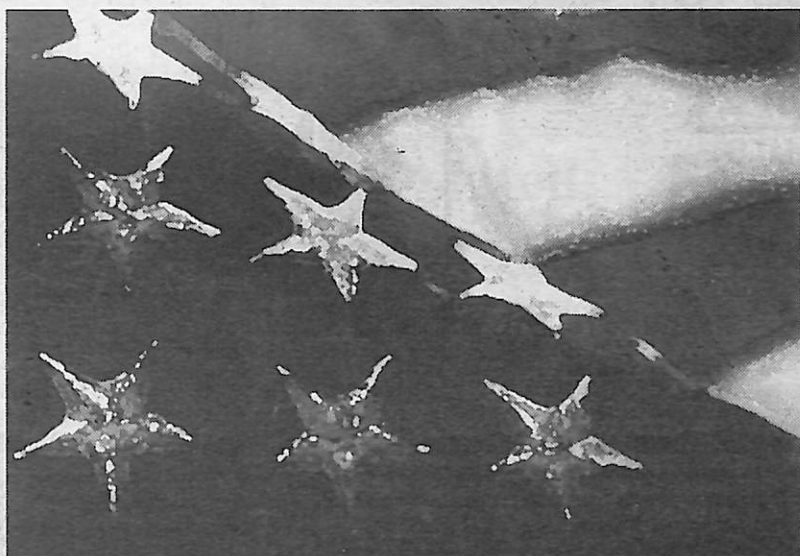




## Have A Happy Retirement!!!



THIS PAST DECEMBER, veteran Agawam police officers (from left to right) Allan Collins, Ronald C. Brown, and James Lewis were congratulated by Michael O'Connor (far right), business agent for Teamster Local 404. These three "retiring" officers began their law enforcement careers within five years of each other, and their combined expertise amounts to nearly 90 years of experience. Collins, Brown, and Lewis will be greatly missed, and best wishes go out to them. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



## A new place of honor for our Veterans

Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam welcomes the development of the city's new Veteran's Cemetery. With construction underway, we're looking forward to opening ceremonies on Memorial Day, 2000. It's sure to be a day filled with deep joy, heartfelt emotion and great celebration!

As the funeral home located closest to the new cemetery, Colonial Forastiere fully supports this eternal tribute and honor to our Veterans.

And in special consideration of its opening, we will respectfully hold the cremains of Veterans in safe storage for any families who wish to have them laid to rest there.

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This designation is awarded to companies who attain sales in the top 15 percent internationally during the calendar year of 1997.

"The President's Award of Honor is one of the highest honors a Coldwell Banker affiliate company can achieve," said Alex Perriello, President and CEO of Coldwell Banker. "Robert Molta and the sales associates at Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates are most deserving of this award."

Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates is located in Agawam, Longmeadow, Southwick, Springfield, and Westfield. Coldwell Banker has been serving the Greater Springfield area since 1981. Currently, Keenan & Molta Associates has over 60 sales associates.

Coldwell Banker Real Estate Corporation, a subsidiary of Cendant Corporation, franchises more than 2,700 independently owned and operated real estate offices with over 60,000 sales associates internationally. Coldwell Banker Online, one of the most comprehensive real estate industry web sites, is located at <http://www.coldwellbanker.com>.

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## Regular Council Mtg. Agenda For Monday, April 6th

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 3/16/98
5. Declaration from Council President
6. **Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances**

### (a) Resolutions

1. TR-98-9-A Resolution Confirming the Reappointment of Barbara Dunn of 588 Main St., Agawam, MA to the Board of Registrars for a Three Year Term Expiring April 1, 2001 (Mayor).

2. TR-98-10-A Resolution to Accept the Provisions of Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 41, Sec. 19J to Increase the Annual Stipend for the Clerk of the Board of Registrars (Sponsored by Richard M. Theroux, Town Clerk and George Bitzas, Councilor).

### 7. Report of Council Committees

Comm. on Rules - Coun. Negrucchi, Chairman  
Comm. on Ordinances - Coun. Magovern, Chairman

Comm. on Utilities - Coun. Caba, Chairman  
Comm. on Licenses - Coun. Bitzas, Chairman  
Comm. on St. Acceptances - Coun. Young, Chairman

### 8. Elections

#### (a)

1. TE-98-6-Election of an alternate member of the Board of Appeals to an unexpired term expiring January 1, 2000.

### 9. Public Hearings

None.

### 10. Old Business

#### (a)

1. TOR-98-1-An Ordinance to Amend Section 49-7(8) of the Code of the Town of Agawam to Create the Position of Personnel Assistant (Mayor)(3rd Reading).

2. TOR-98-2-An Ordinance to Amend Sec. 49-7(9)(a) & (c) of the Code of the Town of Agawam to Update the Hourly Wages for Election and Census Workers and the Annual Salary for Members of the Board of Registrars (Sponsored by Richard M. Theroux, Town Clerk and George Bitzas, Councilor) (1st Reading).

3. TO-98-13-Voucher List (\$401.25).

4. TO-98-14-Application for License for four (4) automatic amusement devices for Goodfellow Grill & Brew - 350 N. Westfield St., FH, MA.

5. TO-98-15-Transfer-\$15,000 from Reserve Fund (16605-57300) to Law Department - Professional Services (11512-52190)(Mayor).

## Agawam Lioness Club To Hold Next Meeting On Monday, April 6th

The Agawam Lioness's next monthly meeting to be held on Monday, April 6th, will take place at the Lions' Den in West Springfield, and the dinner will be served by the Lions Club.

The guest speaker will be Agawam Police Chief Robert Campbell, who will update the club on the R U O K program that is carried out by the Police Department to check up on the homebound elderly in the community.

A Penny Auction will also be held, and it is "Bring A Guest" night.



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## Veterans' Corner...

# Petitioning The Legislature

by Ruth C. Bitzas  
Veterans' Agent

Legislation is naturally high on our agenda at this time of year. As you know, last year was a banner year in having significant legislation passed for the veterans of Massachusetts. Our own Mass. Veterans' Agents Assoc., under the leadership of Paul Keough, Legislative Agent, organized veterans' organizations all over the state to join together to speak in one voice before the Massachusetts legislature.

This statewide group is now known as the Massachusetts United Veterans' Association, Inc., c/o DAV, Room 546, State House, Boston, MA 02133, and meets periodically to decide on a legislative agenda for veterans.

This year (1998), the veterans' organizations of Massachusetts have focused on asking the legislature for three things:

First, changing Chapter 4, MGLA definition of a veteran to include all individuals who have served on active duty for 90 days or more exclusive of the initial active-duty for training time. This law would allow peacetime veterans to apply for benefits under Chapter 115 MGLA providing they meet the eligibility criteria. This program, provided through our department, at present includes eligibility for wartime veterans only. Passage of this law would also allow peacetime veterans to serve as Veterans' Agents. Changes in Chapter 4 would not affect eligibility guidelines for veterans' organizations.

Second, the State Dept. of Veterans' Services provides a burial program to insure that indigent veterans are provided a decent burial. This program, too, is provided through the local Depart-

ments of Veterans' Services. Currently, state law prohibits any help to a family for the burial of an indigent veteran if the funeral cost is more than \$1,500 and allows for only \$1,100 from a city or town, which is reimbursed by the state at a rate of 50 percent. Passage of this legislation would provide payment of \$2,000 to funeral directors towards the total funeral cost of \$3,000. Families would pay the difference, or if the veteran was indigent, no one pays.

Third, every city and town is required by state law to cause every veterans' grave to be decorated with an American flag on each Memorial Day. This mandate is not funded by the state and we request that the legislature provide funding for 75 percent of the cost, which is the formula for all other provisions of our veterans' benefits.

A simple letter of support would go a long way toward passage of this legislation. A sample letter would be: "Please record me in favor of the veterans' request for (1) expanded definition of veterans; (2) increase in burial fees, and (3) reimbursement for flags to decorate veterans' graves."

Mail to: Speaker Thomas Finneran, House of Representatives, State House, Room 326, Boston, MA 02133 (617) 722-2990 and Chairman Paul Haley, House Ways and Means Committee, State House, Room 243, Boston, MA 02133 (617) 722-2500.

Also, carbon copy your local representatives: State Senator Linda J. Melconian, 375 Walnut St. Ext, Agawam 01001 and State Rep. Dan Keenan, 549 Springfield St., Agawam 01001.

## Melconian Endorses Legislation Regarding Claims For Accident/Sickness Insurance

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has endorsed legislation to require insurers to pay claims under accident and sickness insurance within 30 days of receipt.

"It is a matter of fairness that insurers should be forced to pay claims in a timely fashion," Melconian said. "Medical providers should not be forced to wait for payment for up to four months. That isn't the way business is conducted."

Under the legislation heard before the Joint Committee on Insurance on Wednesday, March 18th, insurers who failed to pay a standard claim

within 30 days would be required to pay 1.5 percent interest per month on the claim. Doctors and providers have complained that payments have been delinquent.

"This is unacceptable behavior," Melconian said. "The legislation does not ask insurers to do anything extraordinary or unique. It simply says that standard accident and sickness claims should be paid on time."

Claims that are being disputed or have an error would be exempted. Currently, dentists are paid interest on claims that are not paid within 30 days.

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## — Agawam Obituaries —

### James H. Babcock

James H. Babcock, 85, of Valley Street, Agawam, a 30-year machinist for Package Machinery Co. of East Longmeadow, died at Springfield's Mercy Hospital. He retired in 1974.

Born in Springfield, he was a long-time resident of Agawam.

He was a civil defense warden during World War II, and a communicant of St. Theresa's Church.

He belonged to the Dante Club and the Victor Emmanuel Club, and was a charter member of the Horseshoe League in West Springfield.

He was a member of the Feeding Hills Country Club, and playing on the golf and bowling teams at Package Machinery.

He leaves his wife of 61 years, Leana M. (Morin) Babcock; a son, James Jr., and daughter, Rita A. Lawrie, of West Springfield; two brothers, Timothy of Springfield, and Bernard of Southwick; three sisters, Ruth Newell of Longmeadow, Helen LaMothe of Belchertown, and Arlene Miers of Longmeadow; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in St. Thomas Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church at 74 Bridge Street, Agawam, MA 01001-1241.

### Katherine F. Loncrini

Katherine F. Loncrini, 94, formerly of Springfield and Agawam, died at the Windsor, Connecticut Rehabilitation Center.

Born in Windsor Locks, Connecticut, she spent most of her life in Springfield and in Agawam.

She was predeceased by her husband, Louis.

She leaves a sister, Laura Castellini of Amherst; two grandsons, John Devine and Ronald Devine; and two great-grandsons.

A memorial Mass will be held on Saturday, March 28th, at the Sacred Heart Church of Suffield, Connecticut, with a private burial at St. Thomas Cemetery in West Springfield. Carmon Funeral Home of Windsor is in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mary's Place, 6 Poquonock Avenue, Windsor, 06095-2507.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mary's Place, 6 Poquonock Avenue, Windsor, 06095-2507.

### Gina Abbondanza

Gina (Berte) Gravellone Abbondanza, 92, of 50 Cardinal Drive, Agawam, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born in Casio, Italy, she came to this country in 1907, and moved to Agawam in 1996.

She was a housekeeper for several Springfield families.

Her first husband, Pietro Gravellone, died in 1966, and her second, Joseph Abbondanza, in 1985.

She leaves a brother, Peter of Springfield; a sister, Emma White of Stockton, California; and nephews and nieces.

The funeral was held at Tazzini Funeral Home and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Baystate Health Systems Children's Miracle Network, 759 Chestnut Street, Springfield, MA 01199.

### John F. Niemiec

John F. Niemiec, 52, of 31 Beech Hill Road, Feeding Hills, a 23-year employee of United Parcel Service, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born in Westfield, he lived in Springfield before moving to Feeding Hills 19 years ago.

He was a four-year Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, a communicant of the Sacred Heart Church, and a member of Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 404 and American Legion Post 185.

He leaves his wife, Laura (Tetreault) Niemiec, a son, Alan M., and a daughter, Rachel A. Niemiec, of Feeding Hills.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and the church, with the burial at the convenience of the family.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

### Alfred J. Hebert

Alfred J. Hebert, 95, formerly of 67 Riviera Drive, Agawam, died in a local nursing home.

He managed the former Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. Supermarket for 40 years.

Born and schooled in Somersworth, New Hampshire, he lived in Agawam all of his life.

He was a charter member and communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church, and belonged to the Mawaga Sporting Club.

His wife, the former Marie E. Kennedy, died in 1995.

He leaves two sons, Alfred J. Jr. of Feeding Hills, and Leon F. of Springfield; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and nephews and nieces.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church at 823 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

### Raymond B. LaBranche

Raymond B. LaBranche, 82, of 22 Spencer Street, Agawam, died in a local nursing home.

He was a retired 38-year machinist for Pratt and Whitney Aircraft Division of United Technologies, East Hartford, Connecticut.

Born in Hawley, he was raised and educated in Springfield. He moved to Agawam after serving with the U.S. Navy in Okinawa, Japan, during World War II.

He was a communicant of St. Theresa Church.

He leaves his wife, the former Rita Goguen; a son, Peter O., and a sister, Imelda Lecours of South Hadley.

Another son, David, died in 1992.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Parkinson Disease Association, Massachusetts Chapter, 720 Harrison Avenue, Boston, MA 02118.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 12...

# COOK'S in the KITCHEN

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- Lunch Posted Daily Specials are:**  
**MON.-SUN. 11am to 4pm**  
 ★ Featured Specials —  
 - 8 oz. BACON CHEESEBURG special/homemade coleslaw/French fries  
 - Steak & Swiss on a golden water roll/coleslaw/& steak fries  
 - Haddock square/on a jumbo roll/coleslaw/French fries  
 - Sloppy Joe on a jumbo roll/salad or slaw/fries

- Dinner Specials are: WED.-SUN. 4pm to 8pm**  
 ★ Featured Specials —  
 - Alaskan salmon/baked potato/salad/vegetable/rolls  
 - Seafood platter/whole belly clams/haddock/scrod/shrimp/steak fries/homemade coleslaw/dinner rolls  
 - Haddock & chips/all white haddock/steak fries/slaw/rolls  
 - Swordfish/grilled in a butter & lemon sauce/potato/vegetable/salad



## OBITUARIES - from Page 11...

**Donald E. Conkey**

Donald E. Conkey, 69, of 64 Doane Avenue, Agawam, died in Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He served 30 years in the Agawam Police Department, retiring in 1982.

He was also a former stock car driver at Riverside Park.

Born in Feeding Hills, he lived in the Agawam area most of his life.

He was a member of the West Springfield Fish and Game Club in Agawam.

He was also a Navy veteran of World War II.

He leaves his former wife, Muriel McCarthy of Agawam; two sons, Donald E. Jr. of West Lake Village, California, and Craig T. of Agawam; two daughters, Pamela A. Burke of Dennis and Diana L. Hawkins of Chandler, Arizona; a brother, James of Strong, Maine; a sister, Florence Rochford of Agawam; and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, followed by burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 61210, Longmeadow, MA 01106-210.

**Joseph D. Longo**

Joseph D. Longo, 68, of 955 Suffield Street, Agawam, died at home.

He was an antiques dealer and vegetable farmer.

He was born and schooled in Springfield, and a long-time resident of Agawam.

He was a Navy boatswain's mate during the Korean War, and served aboard the USS Sequoia, used by the secretary of the Navy, and the escort-carrier, USS Salerno Bay.

He was a communicant of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Springfield.

He belonged to the Disabled American Veterans, the Paralyzed and Handicapped Veterans Associations, and was the sergeant-at-arms of the Western Massachusetts Chapter of the Blinded Veterans Association.

He leaves his wife, Dorothy Byrnes Longo; a son, Joseph C. Longo of Feeding Hills; a daughter, Roseanne Longo of Sturbridge; two brothers, Peter and Cosimo of Agawam; two sisters, Josephine Longo of Agawam, and Rose Poisson of Springfield; three nieces; and his first wife, Dorothy (Farnham) Longo.

The funeral was at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam and the church, with the burial at St. Michael's Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Disabled American Veterans, John F. Kennedy Federal Building, Boston, MA 02101.

**Robert A. Grover**

Robert A. Grover, 74, of Channel Drive, Agawam, died at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

He was a 33-year machinist at Wico Electric Co. of West Springfield, and retired in 1980.

Born in Springfield, he lived in West Springfield before moving to Agawam.

He was a Navy veteran of World War II, and served in the South Pacific theater with a patrol torpedo-boat squadron.

He belonged to American Legion Post 207 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6714.

His wife, Pearl (Barker) Grover, died in 1970.

He leaves a son, Richard T., with whom he lived; a stepdaughter, Laurie Anne Cartwright of Auburn, Maine; a sister, Olive Wood of Springfield; and nine grandchildren.

He was predeceased by four sons — Gary G., Daniel L., Robert A., and Lawrence.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with the burial at St. Thomas Cemetery in West Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Daniel L. Grover Memorial Scholarship Fund, in care of Westfield Bank, 206 Park Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

**Alice M. Young**

Alice M. (Biergel-Barclay) Young, 82, of 24606 Cypress Street, Lomita, California, died at home.

She was a retired telephone operator for the Pacific Coast Telephone Co.

Born in Dedham, MA, she was a former resident of Feeding Hills.

Her husband, Howard Young, died March 5th.

She leaves three daughters, Sister Darlene Young of Rolling Hills, California, and Nancy Stanek and Melanie Hudnall, both of Lomita; a brother, John Biergel of Feeding Hills; a sister, Jean Hudnall of Lomita; and three grandchildren.

All services were in Lomita, and burial was in Green Hill Memorial Park in Racho Palos Verdes. The Gamby Mortuary was in charge of arrangements.

**Shepard D. Cohen**

Shepard D. Cohen, 72, of 190 Kendall Street, Springfield, a retired pianist, died in an Agawam nursing home.

Born in Springfield, he was a member of the Elks Lodge, and a former member of the American Federation of Musicians.

He leaves a brother, Marvin of Springfield, and nieces.

A graveside service was held at Sinai Cemetery, with a memorial service at Marvin Cohen's home.

Forastiere-Smith Funeral Home of East Longmeadow assisted with the arrangements.

**Tax Tip From The IRS...****Taxes And Owning A Home**

*Thinking about buying or selling a home? Happy with the same old homestead? Keep in mind that home ownership and tax returns go hand in hand.*

"Whether buying a first home, living in a home for some time, or in the process of selling one, home ownership can have a big effect on income tax returns," the IRS says.

When buying a home, some of the settlement fees and closing costs can be deducted in the tax year the house is bought. These costs include certain real estate taxes, mortgage interest, and points that meet certain requirements.

Other costs of buying a home may be included in the basis of the property. "Basis," says the IRS, "is a way to measure the investment in a home for tax purposes." Costs like abstract and recording fees, surveys, and owner's title insurance are included in the basis.

For people who itemize deductions, interest on most mortgages secured by a person's first or second home is deductible. In addition, qualifying points on a loan used to buy or improve the main home are usually deductible in the year paid.

Real estate taxes, imposed by state or local governments for the general public welfare, are usually deductible.

The Taxpayer Relief Act, signed into law on August 5, 1997, has ended both the once-in-a-lifetime tax break for people age 55 and older and the replacement home rule when people sell a principal residence. Under the old law, those 55 and older could qualify for an exclusion of up to \$125,000 of gain on the home sale.

Anyone who, within two years of the sale, bought a replacement home costing at least as much as the selling price of the old residence, would roll over any gain into the basis of the new home, thus postponing taxes. "And they still can," the IRS says, "if they sold their homes before May 7, 1997."

Under the new law, people of any age can exclude up to \$250,000 of gain (\$500,000 on a joint return) from the sale of a principal residence after May 6, 1997. Unlike the one-time exclusion, this one is allowed once every two years, but only if the person used the home as a principal residence for at least two out of the five years before the sale.

If a person sells before satisfying the two-year residency requirement because of a change in employment or health, the exclusion is pro-rated by the percent of the two-year time met. The seller will have to pay tax on any gain exceeding the exclusion — the replacement home rule no longer applies. Those who sold a principal residence after May 6th and before August 6, 1997, may use either the old or new tax rules.

For figuring the gain on the sale of a home, the IRS reminds people to keep accurate records of all items that affect the basis of the home. This includes improvements such as adding a room, finishing a basement, or putting up a fence.

More information on buying, owning, or selling a home is covered in the following free publications. Call 1-800-829-3676. Or check them out on the Internet at [www.irs.ustreas.gov](http://www.irs.ustreas.gov).

- Publication 523, *Selling Your Home*
- Publication 530, *Tax Information for First-Time Homeowners*
- Publication 936, *Home Mortgage Interest Deduction*

## Financial Aid Info & Resources Available At Rep. Keenan's Office

Financial aid information for college-bound students and their families is available at State Rep. Dan Keenan's district office. Resources and information that may be obtained include a Financial Aid Packet from the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA), the 1997-1998 Admissions and Financial Aid at Independent Colleges in Massachusetts Handbook, and the New England Regional Student Program guide.

Please contact Rep. Keenan's district office, 786-4545, to obtain copies of the financial aid resources. Anyone with questions regarding the financial aid process may call MEFA at (617) 261-9760.

## 14th Annual Easter Day Dinner Slated At Spfld. Civic Center

Open Pantry Community Services, Inc., which provides shelter, social work advocacy, daily meals, and emergency groceries to the poor and homeless, will hold its 14th annual Easter Day Dinner at 12:00 noon at the Springfield Civic Center on April 12th.

Anyone who would like to share in this community meal is welcome to attend, and there is no admission fee. Transportation to the Civic Center can be arranged for people unable to get there on their own. If a ride is needed, please call 737-5354 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Any contributions of desserts (pies, cakes, and cookies) and fruit will be greatly appreciated. The food items may be dropped off at the Civic Center after 9:00 a.m. on Easter Sunday.

Financial donations may be sent to Open Pantry Community Services, Inc., P.O. Box 5127, Springfield, MA 01101-5127.

**ADVERTISER NEWS**

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## Families

### Fitness First Raises \$20,000 For Children's Miracle Network

This year, Fitness First set a goal to raise at least \$20,000 for the Children's Miracle Network at Baystate Medical Center. Thanks to over 250 participants and the help of many people and businesses over the weekend of March 6th, 7th, and 8th, they achieved that goal without a problem.

This is the 12th year that Fitness First has been hosting a weekend where all the proceeds go to the club's biggest charity, the Children's Miracle Network. At the club, the staff members and guests took part in various activities where they collected pledges or paid an entrance fee in order to participate. This year's course of events included a racquetball tournament, a three-hour Aerobathon, a four-hour Spinning Marathon, two senior citizen "Noodle Races" in the pool, a BODY PUMP Challenge class, and a coin dive where children dove for donated coins in the pool.

To top off the weekend, Baystate Medical Center catered a dinner banquet in the club's aerobic studio for about 200 participants. After the dinner, many items, donated by local businesses, were raffled off.

The \$20,000 raised came from the sale of raffle ticket sales, CMN balloons, pledges, sponsors, and donations. The weekend's grand total was further boosted by individual and corporate sponsors who donated tournament prizes and checks. A special thanks to Nevada Bob's, Power Bar, WHYN, the Berkowitz family, Dunkin' Donuts®, Compact Disc Productions, Choice Health, Savage Arms, Mark Oil, Cara Mia, Corbyco Flooring Contractors, Party Plus of Westfield, Greenough Paper Company, Longo Carpet Cleaning, Bare Furniture & Antiques, Atty. Scott Skolnick, and Highland Uniform.

Fitness First would like to thank everyone who was associated with the fundraising weekend. They look forward to next year's event already. Do we hear \$25,000?!

### American Legion Seeks Craftspeople/Vendors

The American Legion Post 185 is seeking crafts people and vendors interested in a two-day Tag Sale and Crafts Sale.

The dates are May 16-17, 1998. The indoor sale is to be held at the American Legion Post 185 located on Springfield Street in Agawam.

Since space is limited, reservations for tables must be made by May 4th. Call Mary Ellen at (413) 789-9844.

### Vecchiarellis Have A Baby Daughter

Dean and Michelle Vecchiarelli announce the birth of their second child, a girl, Angela Marie, who was born on March 15th. She weighed seven pounds, five ounces.

Angela was welcomed home by her big brother, Michael (age two).

The maternal grandparents are Marine and Raymond Boileau of Chicopee. The paternal grandparents are Marie and Phil Vecchiarelli of Feeding Hills.

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our  
classified  
ads...



PREPARING FOR THE Agawam Lioness Club's April 2nd ziti and meatball supper: Shirley Shea, Alice Olson, Janet Gallerani, Bernice Burton, Lillian Doyle, and Marianne Campbell.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

### Agawam Lioness Club Schedules Ziti And Meatball Supper For April 2nd

The Agawam Lioness Club is sponsoring a ziti and meatball supper on Thursday, April 2nd. Servings will be from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

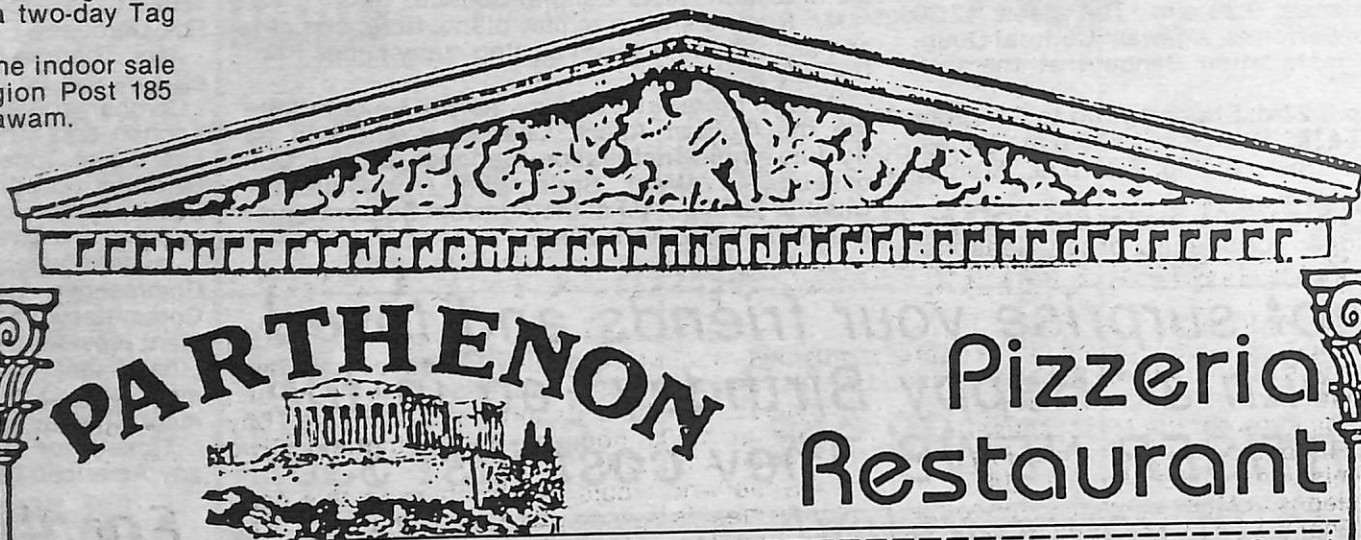
This supper will be held at the Agawam Lions Den at the Big E in West Springfield.

Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children

(12 years of age and under), and they may be purchased from any Lioness member or at the door.

The chairperson for this event is Alice Olsen. Her committee is comprised of Terry Angotti, Rose Keiffer, Rosemarie Maniscalco, and Mary Roy (plus all members of the Lioness Club).

Check our classified pages every week!!!



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**Pizza**

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**At Half Price**

(Not In Conjunction With Any Other Coupons)  
Must Present Coupon — Expires 5/26/98





## Calendar Of Events For The Month Of April At The Agawam Senior Center

**Wednesday, April 1st:** 8:30 a.m., Food stamp and fuel assistance; 9:00 a.m., Tax assistance; 9:30 a.m., Tap class; 12:30 p.m., Kevin Bell entertains; Chapter II Installation Banquet at The Oaks.

**Thursday, April 2nd:** 9:00 a.m., Exercise; 9:30 a.m., Easter candy-making; 12:30 p.m., Ladies' pool; 1:00 p.m., Line dancing; 2:30 p.m., Band practice.

**Friday, April 3rd:** 10:00 a.m., Tai Chi; 1:00 p.m., Duplicate bridge, cribbage, and organ lessons.

**Monday, April 6th:** 9:00 a.m., Tai Chi; 9:30 a.m., Mercy hearing van; 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. Linda King, Easter Bunny visits; 1:00 p.m., Bingo; Chapter II trip to Mohegan Sun.

**Tuesday, April 7th:** 9:00 a.m., SHINE representative, exercise; 9:30 a.m., Sewing/knitting; 10:00 a.m., Golf tourney meeting; 12:00 noon, Monthly birthday; 12:30 p.m., Movie, ladies' pool; 1:00 p.m., BP clinic, computer; 2:00 p.m., Open art studio; 2:30 p.m., Chorus.

**Wednesday, April 8th:** 8:30 a.m., Food stamp and fuel assistance; 9:00 a.m., Tax assistance; 9:30 a.m., Dr. Dickert, podiatrist (by appointment); 9:30 a.m., Tap class; 10:00 a.m., SALT meeting; 1:30 p.m., Golden Agers, Chapter I.

**Thursday, April 9th:** 9:00 a.m., Podiatry with Dr. Salem (by appointment), exercise; 12:30 p.m., Ladies' pool; 1:00 p.m., Line dancing, Melody Band at Western MA Hospital.

**Friday, April 10th:** 10:00 a.m., Tai Chi; 1:00 p.m., Duplicate bridge, cribbage, organ lessons.

**Monday, April 13th:** 9:00 a.m., Tai Chi; 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m., Ron Wozniak, The One-Man Band; 1:00 p.m., Bingo.

**Tuesday, April 14th:** 9:00 a.m., Exercise; 9:30 a.m., Sewing/knitting; 11:00 a.m., Chez Josef/Charlie Prose - \$39 (meal and show); 12:30 p.m., Movie, ladies' pool; 1:00 p.m., Computer class; 2:00 p.m., Open art studio.

**Wednesday, April 15th:** 8:30 a.m., Food stamp and fuel assistance; 9:00 a.m., Tax assistance; 9:30 a.m., Tap class; 1:30 p.m., Golden Agers, Chapter II.

**Thursday, April 16th:** 9:00 a.m., Foot care nurses, exercise; 10:00 a.m., ASGA meeting; 12:30 p.m., Ladies' pool; 1:00 p.m., Line dancing; 2:30 p.m., Melody Band.

**Friday, April 17th:** 10:00 a.m., Tai Chi; 1:00 p.m., Duplicate bridge, cribbage, organ lessons.

**Monday, April 20th:** No lunch served (Patriots' Day); 1:00 p.m., Bingo.

**Tuesday, April 21st:** 9:00 a.m., SHINE representative, exercise; 9:30 a.m., Sewing/knitting; 10:00 a.m., Golf tourney meeting; 12:30 p.m., Movie, ladies' pool; 1:00 p.m., BP clinic, computer; 2:00 p.m., Open art studio; 2:30 p.m., Chorus.

**Wednesday, April 22nd:** 8:30 a.m., Food stamp and fuel assistance; 9:30 a.m., Tap class; 12:30 p.m., John Root performs, Agawam Cultural Council; Chapter I Installation Banquet at the Colosseum.

**Thursday, April 23rd:** Shopping trip to CT shore (only \$18); 9:00 a.m., Exercise; 12:30 p.m., ladies' pool; 1:00 p.m., Line dancing; 2:30 p.m., Melody Band.

**Friday, April 24th:** 10:00 a.m., Tai Chi; 1:00 p.m., Duplicate bridge, cribbage, organ lessons;

Volunteer Recognition (5:00 p.m., social hour; 6:00 p.m., dinner; 7:00 p.m., speaker).

**Monday, April 27th:** 9:00 a.m., Tai Chi; 9:30 a.m., Mercy hearing van; 1:00 p.m., Bingo.

**Tuesday, April 28th:** 9:00 a.m., Exercise; 9:30 a.m., Sewing/knitting; 12:30 p.m., Movie, ladies' pool; 1:00 p.m., Computer class; 2:00 p.m., Open art studio, Attorney Deegan (by appointment); 4:00 p.m., COA meeting.

**Wednesday, April 29th:** 8:30 a.m., Food stamp and fuel assistance; 9:30 a.m., Tap class; 12:30 p.m., Speaker; 2:00 p.m., Dress rehearsal for "April In Agawam" (Senior Follies).

**Thursday, April 30th:** 9:00 a.m., Exercise; 2:00 p.m., "April In Agawam" (Senior Follies), \$3 admission; Chapter I trip to Mohegan Sun.

### ASGA Easter Sale:

Our Agawam Senior Games Athletes are busy planning an Easter sale (combined with a tag sale, bake sale, and a bottle and can return) on April 4th.

They are asking everyone to save their returnable bottles and cans, and deposit them in the barrel in the lobby of the Senior Center. On April 4th, while conducting their sales, they will also make runs to the store to turn in the cans and bottles that their friends have donated to them. They hope to make these events successful, and are asking for your help. (What a busy time they all have ahead of them!)

If anyone has cans and bottles to donate, and can't get them to the Senior Center, please call Vi Prez at 786-3164 and she will see that they are picked up. They are also looking for tag sale items, and will be happy to pick them up.

Hope to see you all at the sale!

### Ballroom Dancing:

On Sunday, April 26th (the last Sunday of the month), from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., there will be ballroom dancing at the Agawam Senior Center.

The cost is just \$1 per dancer, and music will be by Libby Campa.

Join us and dance up a storm!

### "April In Agawam" (Senior Follies):

The Senior Follies will present the show "April In Agawam" on Thursday, April 30th, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center.

The donation is \$3, and this show is a fundraiser to benefit the Agawam COA.

### Agawam Cultural Council To Sponsor Concert At Senior Center:

On Wednesday, April 22nd, at 12:30 p.m., musician John Root will perform at the Agawam Senior Center. This performance is being funded by the Agawam Cultural Council, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Mr. Root is known to play piano, flute, clarinet, and saxophone, as well as sing many songs from the 30's and 40's.

What's more, at 2:00 p.m., he will be entertaining the Golden Agers, Chapter I, who will be holding their Installation Banquet at the Colosseum in West Springfield (consequently, Chapter I will not be at the Agawam Senior Center on Wednesday, April 22nd).



AIRMAN JACOB U. BLAIR

## Airman Jacob U. Blair Graduates From Air Force Basic Training

Air Force Airman Jacob U. Blair has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Blair is the son of Gregory A. Blair of 90 School St., Agawam.

He is a 1997 graduate of Agawam High School.

## Annual Banquet Slated For Amer. Legion Aux. Of Hampden County

The Annual Banquet of American Legion Auxiliary of Hampden County will be held on April 18th at the American Legion Home on Robbins Rd., Chicopee Falls, at 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Theresa Balboni, County Director, and her officers will be honored.

Co-chairwomen for the evening are Mrs. Peggy Kachon and Mrs. Ann Girard, being assisted by Mrs. Claire Oppel, ticket chairwoman; Miss Donna Dziedzic, program chairwoman; Mrs. Debra Bakes, guest book; Mrs. Carolyn Baranowski, seating; and Mrs. Jean McCarthy, raffle.

Invited guests are American Legion County Commander, Harold Piper; National Executive Committeewoman, Miss Donna LePan; Department President, Mrs. Marion Roberts; President of Liberty Unit No. 430, Mrs. Maria Martin; Department Vice Commander, Mark Avis; and Department Chaplain, Mrs. Carolyn Baranowski.

Tickets for the banquet may be secured from any American Legion Auxiliary Unit.

## ADVERTISER NEWS

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## Eric J. Copson To Report For U.S. Army Basic Training This April

Eric J. Copson has joined the United States Army under the Delayed Entry Program at the U.S. Army Recruiting Station, Springfield, MA.

The program gives young men and women the opportunity to delay entering active duty for up to one year.

The enlistment gives the new soldier the option to learn a new skill, travel, and become eligible to receive as much as \$40,000 toward a college

education. After completion of basic training, soldiers receive advanced individual training in their career specialty.

Copson, a 1997 graduate of Agawam High School, will report to Fort Benning, Columbus, Georgia, for basic training this April. The recruit qualifies for a \$12,000 bonus.

He is the son of Iris M. and Charles E. Copson of 131 Northwood St., Feeding Hills.



BABY ALISON MARIE RENAUD

## The Renaud Family Announces Birth Of Daughter, Alison M.

Tony and Debbie Renaud of Agawam announce the birth of their second child, a daughter, Alison Marie.

Alison was born on February 11th at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield. She weighed eight pounds, three ounces, and measured 22 inches.

Welcoming Alison home was her 17 month-old sister, Emily.

Her maternal grandparents are Pat Hart of Westfield and Chip Hart of Florida. Her paternal grandmother is Rolande Renaud of Springfield.

The great-grandparents are Burton Hart of Westfield, Rose Renaud of Springfield, and Beatrice Gagne of Vermont.

## Ladies' Pool Club Has Commenced At Agawam Senior Center

A notice to women who are 60 years of age or older:

Have you been looking for something to do for a few hours a week? If this applies to you, then come join the Ladies' Pool Club at the Agawam Senior Center.

The club meets on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Whether you're just learning the game or want to sharpen your skills, come join us for an enjoyable afternoon!

## Golden Age Club's (Chapter 2) Events For Month Of April

**April 1st:** Installation Banquet at The Oaks in Agawam. Hors-d'oeuvres at 11:00 a.m., with dinner served at 12:00 noon. Entertainment will be provided by "The Cameo Club" with Jack Jackson.

**April 6th:** Bus trip to Mohegan Sun.

**April 15th:** Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. Entertainment - Tom Perry will show travel slides on Asia Pitcairn and other islands.

**April 24th:** Board of Directors' meeting at the Senior Center at 1:00 p.m.

**April 26th:** May 2nd bus trip to Myrtle Beach (seven days, six nights).

**REMINDER:** The 1998 membership dues should be paid by March 31st. The membership address listings booklet will be reprinted in April.

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 <b>Bud Dry</b> (Case - Bar Bottles) <b>\$9.99</b> Plus Deposit	 <b>Heineken</b> (12 Pk. Bottles) <b>\$9.99</b> Plus Deposit	 <b>Seagram's Wine Coolers</b> (4 Pk.) <b>\$2.99</b> (All Flavors)
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<p><b>DeLoach Russian River Chardonnay</b> (750 ml.)</p> <p><b>\$14.99</b></p>	<p><b>Joseph Phelps Insignia</b> <i>1993 Vintage</i> (750 ml.)</p> <p><b>\$45.99</b></p>	<p><b>R. Mondavi Woodbridge</b> (1.5 Ltr.) <i>Cab/Chard/Sauv Blanc/Merlot</i></p> <p><b>\$11.99</b></p>	<p><b>R. Mondavi Woodbridge</b> (1.5 Ltr.) <i>White Zinfandel</i></p> <p><b>\$8.99</b></p>

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## AFS Students Visit With Jr. Women's Club...



ON TUESDAY, MARCH 17TH, four of this year's AFS students (American Intercultural Programs, Agawam Chapter) were the guests at a meeting of the Agawam Junior Women's Club. From left to right: Karen Cree, Junior Women's Club; Camilla C. Brodahl Ringvold, Norway; Raffin Maneechayangkoon, Thailand; Wendy Gonzales, Bolivia; Simon Tyrberg, Sweden; and Ann Woodard, Agawam Junior Women's Club. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Operation Friendship Slates 'Mystery Dinner'

Operation Friendship will be presenting "Dorothy Dinsmore, Gossip Columnist" on March 28th and April 4th at 6:30 p.m.

Performed by the Drama Studio Ensemble, the plot revolves around the story of a gossip columnist who has information on several members of the jet set. Dorothy hosts an evening dinner party where she tells her guests exactly what she plans to do with the information she has dug up unless they contribute to her "retirement fund."

The menu for the evening will be breast of capon, roast beef, or vegetarian. Tickets are \$15 and all funds will support local youths' travel this summer.

Call 786-7898 or 789-2410 for reservations and ticket information. Please leave a message if you get an answering machine.

## Pancake Breakfast On March 28th At Spfld. Turnverein

Come and enjoy a Pancake Breakfast consisting of pancakes, sausages, orange juice, coffee or milk, on Saturday, March 28th sponsored by the Springfield Turnverein of Agawam, 176 Garden Street, Feeding Hills.

Breakfast will be served from 9:00-11:30 a.m. for a donation of \$3 for adults and \$2 for children under 10 years of age.

The Easter Bunny will be available for photos at a minimal charge and there will be an "Easter Egg Hunt" (weather permitting).

Best local news...

## Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, March 30th:** Sweet and sour pork rib on Oriental rice, mixed vegetable, fortune cookie, rye bread, apple.

**Tuesday, March 31st:** Chicken breast, mashed potato, Italian blend vegetable, rye bread, baked custard.

**Wednesday, April 1st:** Chicken paprika pie, tossed salad, bread sticks, jello with fruit.

**Thursday, April 2nd:** Salisbury steak on roll with peppers and onions, potato puff, rye bread, canned peaches.

**Friday, April 3rd:** Clam chowder, tuna salad on a roll, pasta and pea salad, mixed fruit.

## April Calendar Of Events for Chapter 1 Golden Age Club

**Friday, April 3rd:** Board of Directors Meeting, 1:00 p.m., Senior Center.

**Wednesday, April 8th:** Meeting Day. Election of Officers; Easter Basket Raffle; Gift Bingo.

**Wednesday, April 15th:** Trip to Vermont—Maple Sugar Tour.

**Wednesday, April 22nd:** Installation of Officers, Colosseum in West Springfield. Social Hour at 11:30 a.m., Dinner at 12:30 p.m.

**Thursday, April 30th:** Trip to Foxwood Casino.

## 13th Airborne Division Association To Hold 17th Annual Reunion

The 13th Airborne Division Association is searching for anyone who served with the 13th Airborne Division during World War II.

The Association will be holding its 17th annual reunion in St. Louis, Missouri, from September 9 through 13, 1998.

For information about the Association and the reunion, please contact: John R. Scott, Secretary, P.O. Box 1372, Shawnee Mission, KS, telephone (913) 722-1143.

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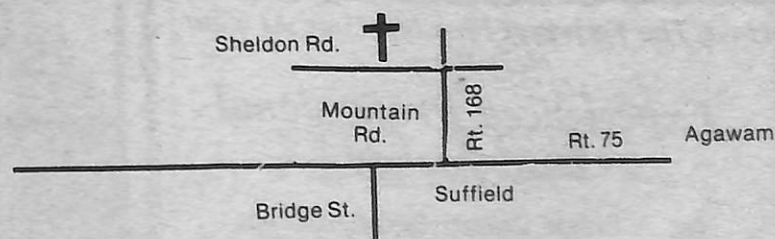
*Family Considerations*



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Reverend Peter Monahan  
(860) 668-4444 Or (413) 786-8735



# Church News

## Ham And Bean Dinner At First Baptist Church...



ON SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH, Agawam First Baptist Church held a ham and bean dinner. IN LEFT PHOTO: Dorothy Jenks and Nancy Edwards make their selections from the dessert table. IN-CENTER PHOTO: Bernice and Don Nowill help serve beans. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Carlene Nowill and three year-old Taylor Lucas enjoy their meals. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

### Nocturnal Adoration Society To Meet On Friday, April 3rd

The Nocturnal Adoration Society of Agawam and West Springfield will meet at Saint Ann's Church in West Springfield to conduct and pray the Office of the Blessed Sacrament, Friday, April 3rd from 7:00-11:00 p.m. All are invited to come and spend an hour in Eucharistic Adoration.

### Catholic Women's Club Slates Giant Tag Sale For Apr. 25th

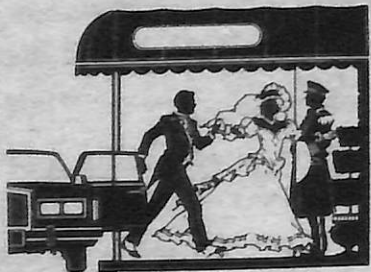
The Catholic Women's Club of Agawam will sponsor a giant Tag Sale in the parking lot of St. John the Evangelist Church on Saturday, April 25th from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Interested vendors can obtain complete information by calling Betsy Ciempa at 786-5160.

### Corned Beef And Cabbage Dinner At Ag. United Methodist

The Agawam United Methodist Church will sponsor a Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner on Saturday, March 28th at 5:30 p.m. Donation is \$7; \$6 for seniors and \$3 for children 12 and under. For a reserved seat, call 786-3261.

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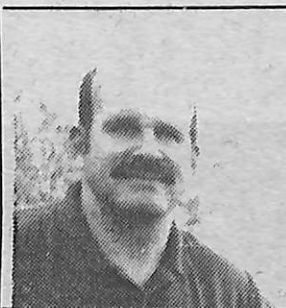
786-2100

Mon. - Tues. - Wed. 9-4  
Thurs. - Fri. 9-5

Open To All Who Live Or Work In Agawam



## Church News - continued...



## Reflections...

submitted by  
**Rev. Peter Monahan**  
Pastor of the Church  
of the Apostles,  
Suffield, CT  
(860) 666-4444 or  
(413) 796-8735

## Reasons To Hope...

What do you hope for? Some people hope for wealth. Others hope for health. All of us hope for something. The irony of it is that even if we obtain what we hope for, we will most likely still feel like something is still missing.

If we focus our hopes on the things of this world, we become consumed with what the Bible describes as the **continual lust for more**. Whether we're trying to "keep up with the Joneses" or we are "the Joneses," this world cannot truly satisfy our deep desires.

The Apostle Paul had achieved much in his life before he became a Christian. Recalling his former life, the Apostle wrote, "If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews, in regard to the law, a Pharisee, as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless."

The Apostle Paul was one of the "Joneses" whom others try to keep up with. Yet Paul found out that even with all he had, he had nothing. "But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord."

Other people are not quite as fortunate or as successful as the Apostle Paul. Some people's lives are stories of almost making it, while others

actually suffer from brokenness and defeat. Such people tend to look at the "Joneses" and their pursuers with envy. Their hopes can diminish over time.

Christianity is sometimes called the religion of second chances. For those who discover through their experiences that the riches of this world lack real meaning and substance, there is more for them. There can be a real and full future in knowing God.

Paul shifted his focus from what he could accomplish on his own to what was really worthwhile. "That I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith." Being righteous means knowing God personally.

\*\*\*

For those whom the world has denied hope, God offers His. **This is what the Lord says ... "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland."**

The people of Israel were once a people devoid of hope. In Psalm 126 we read, **When the Lord brought back the captives to Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with shouts of joy. Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."**

God put us on this earth for better reasons than to simply live and then die. He put us on this earth with the hope that we would come to know Him, and live in relationship with Him.

That is the eternal life that Jesus promises to all who embrace Him. Eternal life begins in this life, then continues on into the next.

Whether we enjoy the wealth of this world or not, all of us can be people of hope. **But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.**

## "Spring Fair" At Mittineague Methodist

The Mittineague United Methodist Church, 800 Amostown Road, West Springfield (across from Fausey School) will host a "Spring Fair" on Saturday, March 28th from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Featured will be breakfast with the Easter Bunny from 8:00-11:00 a.m. (\$4 for adults, \$2 for children), a potato bar with all the "fixin's" (11:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.), homemade baked goods, handmade knit sweaters, handcrafted items, apparel, an "Attic Treasures" table, and a Holiday Gifts table.

For more information, call the church office, 788-0304.

## Ag. Congregational To Dedicate New Century Hymnals

The New Century Hymnals will be dedicated on Sunday, March 29th, during the Worship Service at Agawam Congregational Church.

These new hymnals have been donated to the church through the memorial contributions in loving memory of Arthur F. Owen, former Trustee and Deacon of the church.

These are new hymnals of the United Church of Christ. They were published in 1995 with a copyright by the Pilgrim Press.

## News & Notes From St. John's

### LENTEN SCHEDULE

Daily Mass: 8:30 a.m.; 7:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross: Fridays, 4:00 p.m. (children) only this week.

### St. John's Over-60 Club

The Mystic Aquarium/Seaport trip is on May 7th. The cost of \$51 includes dining at the S.&P. Oyster Co. Call Barbara, 786-7037, or Lil at 786-9586.

### AGAWAM CATHOLIC SINGLES CLUB

Meetings are 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in joining should call Frank at 789-2764 or Kay B. at 786-8442.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

March 29th: Roller-skating, Rollaway, \$5, 7:00-9:00 p.m. Call Carol at 789-2843.

April 4th: Murder Mystery Dinner, F.H. Congregational Church, \$15. Call Denise at 786-7783.

April 8th: Monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. Apalachian Trail slides by Henry Lafleur. Call Carol at 789-2843 or Joanne at 786-1583.

## Representatives From Steiger Ministries At Harvest Assembly

David Pierce will be at the Harvest Assembly of God Church on Sunday, March 29th at 6:00 p.m. David is the founder and director of Steiger International Ministries. He will be joined by musician Andy Eldred. He is a part of the Steiger ministry band, Massada.

David's ministry focuses on reaching the "global" youth culture for Jesus Christ. His powerful and "untypical" ministry reaches into places that most people would not go or be able to reach with the gospel.

He will be sharing his testimony and the exciting stories of what God is doing among the youth culture.

The service is especially geared towards youth and adults. Nursery will be provided.

Rev. Brian and Liz Griswold, directors and founders of Inner City Ministries of Providence, Rhode Island will be at the church in the morning at 10:30 a.m. The Griswolds conduct special "Sidewalk Sunday School" programs in reaching children and youth in the inner city with the gospel. Come hear the testimonies of what the Lord is doing and what He can do in your life.

The church is located at 121 Union Street in West Springfield (near the I.H.O.P. restaurant). For more information, you may call the church at 739-1234.

\*\*\*  
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\*\*\*

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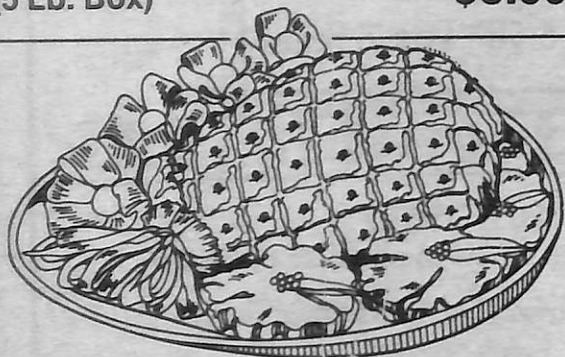
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Boneless Sirloin Steak	\$2.99 Lb.
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Beef Round Stew Beef	\$2.69 Lb.
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5 Lbs. Or More	\$2.49 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
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Fresh Ground Chuck	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.69 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.39 Lb.
Whole Boneless Sirloins	\$1.99 Lb.
Grade "A" Skinless & Boneless Chicken Breast	\$2.69 Lb.
Flavorite Boneless Half Hams	\$1.99 Lb.
Frozen Hamburg Patties (5 Lb. Box)	\$8.99



Skinless And Shankless  
Jordan Easter Ham

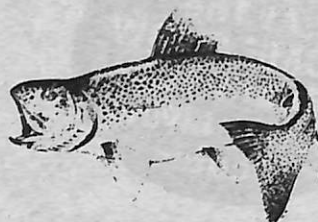
Whole (All Sizes)	\$1.89 Lb.
Shank Half	\$2.49 Lb.
Butt Half	\$2.19 Lb.
Center Slices	\$2.99 Lb.
(Order Now For Best Selection)	

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Russer German Bologna	\$1.29 Lb.
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S & R Provolone Cheese	\$2.99 Lb.
Fresh Seafood Salad	\$3.99 Lb.



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Frozen Fish Cakes	\$1.49 Lb.

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Fresh Broccoli (Bunch)	\$1.19
California Asparagus	\$1.89 Lb.
Bananas	39¢ Lb.
California Navel Oranges (Jumbo Size)	49¢ Each
Cantaloupes (Each)	99¢

## FROZEN & DAIRY

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Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk (½ Gallon)	\$1.19
Hood Skim Milk (Gallon)	\$2.19

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## Holiday Greeting Cards

April Fool's Day  
Easter Sunday

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## Church News - continued...

News And Notes From  
F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m.

The lectionary readings for March 29th, the fifth Sunday of Lent, will be Isaiah 43:16-21, Psalm 126, Philippians 3:4b-14, and John 12:1-8.

Rev. Donaldson's sermon title is "Something Beautiful." The Lector will be Diane Fiejdasz.

Children should attend worship with their parents, leaving at a designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

\*\*\*

There will be a Special Meeting of the Feeding Hills Congregational Church called by the Church Council on Sunday, March 29th, immediately following Worship Service.

Proposed amendments to the Church Constitution and By-Laws, as well as the moving of the driveway, will be discussed. All members are encouraged to attend.

\*\*\*

Sunday School members are asked to remain after church on March 29th to help make Easter baskets which they will deliver to shut-in members and friends on Palm Sunday.

Pizza and soda will be provided for lunch.

\*\*\*

The Board of Christian Education would like to remind everyone that their collection of Pennies for People will continue throughout the season of Lent.

Please contribute to the Sunday School effort to send a physically challenged youth to camp.

\*\*\*

The first meeting of the Wednesday morning Scripture Project Bible Study group is scheduled for April 1st at 9:30 a.m. The series will continue for six weeks.

Meeting time is flexible; please speak to Rev. Rob if there is a better time for you to meet.

\*\*\*

Operation Friendship will present "Dorothy Dinsmore, Gossip Columnist" on March 28th and April 4th beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Funds raised from this dinner theater performance by the Drama Studio Ensemble will support local youths' travel this summer. Call 786-7898 or 789-2410 for reservations and ticket information.

\*\*\*

The Flower Committee is taking orders for Easter flowers. Please speak to Sharon Rozanski, Betty Bava, or Margaret Johnson to place an order.

You may call the church office at 786-5061 if you prefer.

\*\*\*

On the calendar:

Thursday, March 26th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Saturday, March 28th: OF Mystery Dinner.

Sunday, March 29th: 10:00 a.m., Morning worship; Christian Ed preparing Easter baskets after church; Special Meeting after church.

Monday, March 30th: 4:00 to 5:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts; 7:30 p.m., Pastor/Parish Relations Committee.

Tuesday, March 31st: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Wednesday, April 1st: 9:30 a.m., Bible Study; 7:00 p.m., Choir.

Thursday, April 2nd: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

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**786-3009**

## Calendar Of Events And Activities From First Baptist Church In Agawam

An ice cream social will kick-off a weekend of special activities at First Baptist Church. The evening of fun, sponsored by the Caring Connection, and held in Bodurtha Hall at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 27th, is in conjunction with the Adoption Program.

There will be opportunity to sign-up for an upcoming adoption, share fellowship with others, and consume some calories!

\*\*\*

Sunday morning worship at 9:30 a.m. will feature Pastor Richard Barnes' sermon topic, "A Good Investment." He will use as his scriptural reference John 12:1-8. Jeanne Webster will lead the responsive reading; greeters will be Dot and Norman Jenks, and Diana LaZazzera.

Following morning worship, there will be a special "Motive, Means and Opportunity" fair in Bodurtha Hall. All boards and committees of the church will share a visual description of their work in the church. This will be your special opportunity to see what is happening, and to volunteer to share your special talents as you see fit.

\*\*\*

At 7:00 p.m., also this Sunday, March 29th, the third in the Lenten series held jointly with the Agawam Congregational Church will convene. This week's meeting will be at the Baptist Church.

Discussion leaders are Rev. Curt Fuller, Rev. Richard Barnes, and Dan Pender. Childcare is provided. Come share the journey through Lent by participating in this study.

\*\*\*

On our calendar this coming week:

**Monday, March 30th:** 7:30 p.m., Word Search bible study

**Tuesday, March 31st:** 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group

**Wednesday, April 1st:** 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayer Time; 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open

**Thursday, April 2nd:** 10:00 a.m., Bell Ringers Rehearsal; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, April 3rd:** 6:30 p.m., Divorce Recovery Program begins with a seminar weekend. Sessions will be held on Friday evening, as well as Saturday, April 4th.

There will also be follow-up sessions on Tuesday evenings through May 26th. Seminar fee of \$75 includes program workbook, continental breakfast, and lunch snacks at the Saturday session and the eight-week follow-up session.

Lectures are led by professionals, and counseling services are available. To register, call the Church office at 786-7300.

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\$120,000 and \$135,000 on a two family.

## Westfield Bank

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**Church News - continued...****Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational**

This Sunday, March 29th, is the fifth Sunday in Lent. The Service of Worship continues at 10:30 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Rev. Fuller's Sermon will be "Are You Filled With Joy?", taken from Text: Psalm 126:3. The Children's Message will be "I Have Joy in My Heart."

The New Century Hymnals will be dedicated during the Worship Service. Reminder: grades 7-12 meet at 9:00 a.m., and grades kindergarten through 6 meet at 10:30 a.m.

The Adult Education Class meets each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the Church library. The Christian Education Director, Dan Pender, will lead this week's session, "Love Poured Out For You." All are welcome to attend.

The Open Pantry item for this Sunday is bar soap.

Items collected will be donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

"A Way Through Lent," a joint Lenten Adult Education Series with the First Baptist Church of Agawam, continues.

The next session is on Sunday, March 29th, at 7:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Agawam. The series will be led by Rev. Fuller, Rev. Barnes, and Dan Pender, Youth/Christian Education Director.

For more information concerning the series, call the church office at 786-7111.

The Catering Committee is sponsoring a Baked Chicken Breast Dinner on Saturday, April 4th, at 5:30 p.m.

For reservations, please call the church office, 786-7111, or Jerry Hamel, 786-2908. Reservations close Friday, April 3rd.

The April One-Day Vacation Bible Camp, "The Easter Story Lives," is Wednesday, April 22nd, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Children pre-school through high school are welcome to attend. Registration forms are available in the Church Office.

For more information, call the church office, 786-7111.

Boy Scout Troop No. 82 will hold a Car Wash and Can Drive on Saturday, April 11th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church parking lot.

Stop by to have your car washed (\$2.50) and drop off your cans and bottles to help the scouts fund their activities.

The Easter Sunday Services Schedule is as follows: Sunrise at 6:00 a.m. (at the Springfield Turnverein on Garden Street), 9:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

See "West Side Story" live on stage! Tickets are available at only \$29.50 (side lodges) for the Saturday, June 6th, performance at 3:00 p.m. at Springfield Symphony Hall.

Call the church office, 786-7111, for tickets.

The Ladies Aid Society Annual Spring Festival is scheduled for Saturday, April 25th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mark your calendars today! Crafters are wanted to display their wares.

Call the church office at 786-7111 for more information.

**Chicken Breast Dinner At Ag. Congregational**

The Agawam Congregational Church will be holding a Baked Chicken Breast Dinner on Saturday, April 4th at 5:30 p.m.

The dinner will include salad, baked chicken breast, potatoes, vegetables, rolls & butter, dessert, and beverage.

The cost is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children. The dinner will be held at the church located at

745 Main Street. Reservations are recommended. A few walk-ins will be accepted.

Reservations can be made by calling the church office at 786-7111 or Jerry Hamel at 786-2908 before noon on Friday, April 3rd.

To receive notice of all our dinners by mail, call (413) 786-2908 and leave your name, address, and phone number.

**"CHURCH NEWS" is another reason  
why you turn our pages each and  
every week — ADVERTISER NEWS!!!**

**Holy Construction**

by Rev. Robert Donaldson  
Pastor, Feeding Hills Congregational Church

Anyone who has lately ventured onto the property of Feeding Hills Congregational Church has encountered carpenters, an electrician, building inspectors, piles of lumber, sheetrock, ceiling tiles, and other building materials, and an inordinate amount of dust.

After so much talk filling the air for so long, this is a wonderful sight. With all of the construction work being done at our meeting house, one of the questions which has occasionally been raised has been, "How does all this serve God?" Underlying that question is something a bit more profound: Why does God, who is not a corporeal being, want or need a physical space in which to dwell?

That question can be traced back to our Jewish roots, of course, for the presence of God was at one point in Israel's history conveyed in the Ark of the Covenant, and later transferred to the site of Solomon's Temple, the dimensions of which are described in detail in 1 Kings. So, from the days when the Ark moved about with God's people until the days when the first Temple was constructed, there was never a time in which God was not provided with a physical shelter.

The Jewish Portuguese commentator Isaac Abravanel (1437-1508) suggested that God wanted a place to dwell among the Israelites because some people believe that God is remote - watching us from a distance - in the heavens. But by building a place in their midst, people would be constantly reminded that God is close to us at all times. God's power and presence is not contained by a house of God, but is accessible to us on that sacred ground.

God is everywhere. God dwells wherever we let God in according to Martin Buber. But God understands our need for reminders and the necessity for a separate and holy place where we can return our hearts to God and make our decisions about how we fulfill our responsibilities as God's people, whether out of love or out of obligation.

Lent is the time Christians set aside for spiritual remodeling and construction. It is a 40-day period for considering the question, "How can I reconstruct my life that I may better serve God, who has provided me with life and all it contains? How can I remodel my habits - at home, at work, at church, in private, in public - so all that I do may be in line with what Jesus would do?"

All the construction going on at our church is a fitting reminder that we, too, are to be in a state of holy construction, measuring and cutting and building our lives into sacred spaces that may be more pleasing to God.

**ADVERTISER NEWS**



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Patricia Pryor





## Spotlight On Business

### Legal Memo

by  
**Alan J. Ferrigno, Esq.**  
 546 Springfield St., F.H.  
 (413) 786-9454



### Buying A Home Can Be A Dangerous Business...

Buying a home is likely the most important purchase that people make in their lifetimes.

Surprisingly, most people know little about the legal relationship and duties among the parties involved in the purchase of residential real estate. This dearth of knowledge can have dire consequences for the uninformed.

#### No Duty To Disclose Defects

Massachusetts homeowners who sell their homes generally are not liable for bare non-disclosure of defects in circumstances where there is no inquiry by a prospective buyer.

In fact, in its most recent decision on this issue, the Supreme Judicial Court stated that "a seller of property is not under any obligation to disclose defects to a buyer in the absence of a fiduciary duty."

In one case, the Court refused to rule for the plaintiffs although the sellers knew that their home was infected with termites and failed to disclose this fact to the buyers. The buyers did not ask the sellers about the presence of termites and the sellers remained silent regarding the termite situation. The buyers discovered extensive termite damage only after moving into their new home.

The Court based its decision on the "long standing rule of nonliability for bare nondisclosure."

#### Exception To General Rule Of Caveat Emptor

Massachusetts courts have continued to recognize misrepresentation and fraud claims where an unwitting buyer was induced through fraud or misrepresentation to purchase residential real estate.

The SJC recognizes that fraud and misrepresentation are wholly separate from bare non-disclosure.

In one case, the seller of a converted multi-family home advertised the home to the public as a multi-family home. In fact, the home was only zoned as a one-family, but this fact was never revealed to the buyers who relied on the seller's representations and advertisements in purchasing what they believed was a multi-family home.

The Court opined that if a seller "does speak with reference to a given point of information, voluntary or at the other's request, he is bound to speak honestly and to divulge all material facts bearing upon the point that lie within his knowledge. Fragmentary information may be as misleading ... as active misrepresentation, and half-truths may be as actionable as whole lies. ..."

Based on this reasoning, the Court found in favor of the plaintiff on a misrepresentation claim, even though the parties never expressly discussed the number of legally zoned units. The Court determined that the seller's actions in advertising the property as a multi-family and similar actions were sufficient to constitute actionable misrepresentation.

Additionally, Massachusetts imposes no independent legal duty on a buyer of real estate to investigate whether the seller is attempting to defraud the buyer through use of misrepresentations.

Massachusetts courts have repeatedly stated that the recipient of a fraudulent misrepresentation of fact is justified in rely on its truth, even though the recipient might have ascertained the falsity of the representation through investigation.

**Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts.**

**Alan J. Ferrigno's column, "Legal Memo," is a regular feature of the Advertiser News...**

### Congrats, Kevin!



**KEVIN PIQUETTE (left)** received a "Performance Award" for the month of February at **Riverside Amusement Park**. Congratulating Piquette on his award is **Rick Neis, Director of Maintenance at Riverside**. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

### Pam Savioli

**Landry, Lyons & Whyte Co./Better Homes & Gardens**



### At Ease And Ready To Sell

To sell your home, you'll need more than ads and signs. You need a proven strategy for attracting the best buyer to your home.

The primary job of a real estate professional is to cause the home to sell. Here are some ways a real estate professional can make the home-selling process easier for you.

- Helping you set the right price for your home to attract the right buyers and the sales associates who work with them.
- Gathering data that will present your house and neighborhood in the best light.
- Targeting the market where the most likely buyers will be.
- Accessing the local real estate market and relocation network.
- Handling calls from people who may be more curious than serious about buying.
- Showing your home to the best prospects.
- Representing you during the offer process.
- Doing the necessary paperwork and legwork.
- Guiding you through settlement.

**For more information about selling your home, call Pam Savioli at (413) 748-7565.**

### Stop & Shop To Help "Food For Friends"

April is "Food For Friends" Month at all Massachusetts Stop & Shop supermarkets. You can help drive away hunger® in our local communities by participating in the ninth annual "Food For Friends" program.

Each night, one in 11 people in Massachusetts go to bed hungry, according to Project Bread. During the month of April, purchase a \$1 paper "can" at all Stop & Shop locations, and starting April 26th, donate any non-perishable food or health and beauty care items in-store.

The "Food For Friends" program culminates with the Food Drive on Saturday, May 2nd, from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., rain or shine at all Stop & Shop locations, and with the Walk For Hunger on May 3rd.

All contributions will be donated to local hunger relief organizations.



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## For Your Health



### Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell  
Registered Dietician

Rock stars Eddie and Alex Van Halen won't be the only ones sporting a milk mustache in *Rolling Stone* magazine. On March 23rd, students from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst were photographed with a white upper lip for a chance to be featured in a milk mustache ad in a future issue of *Rolling Stone*. The photo contest is part of a national program to educate college-age men and women about the health benefits of milk.

The milk mustache campaign is targeting college-age men and women because students are saying "good bye" to milk when they hit campus.

"There's a real calcium crisis on college campuses across the country," says Nancy Dell, a local registered dietitian. "Too many students are leaving calcium-rich milk at home, not realizing their bones continue to grow until their mid-30's and they need as much calcium now as they did growing up."

The National Academy of Sciences recommends college-age men and women consume at least 1,000 mg of calcium each day. Drinking at least three 8-oz. glasses of milk will bring them closer to meeting this daily calcium requirement.

While students may leave milk at home with mom, they're turning to nutrient vacant drinks, like soda and coffee at school. In fact, 65 percent of students surveyed reported drinking sodas on a regular basis, and they're downing an average of more than a glass (9.8 ounces) each day.

College age men and women may not realize that trading milk for soda and coffee may have a "bone draining" effect. Excess consumption of caffeine found in some beverages, like soda and

SEE DELL - Page 24...

## Various Support Groups, Courses, And Programs Offered By Noble Hospital

### SUPPORT GROUPS

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** Sunday evenings, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital, 115 West Silver Street, Westfield.

Free of charge. All are welcome.

**Stroke Support Group:** Wednesdays, April 1st, April 15th, and April 29th, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. In the Bronson Rehabilitation Center Dining Room at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals recovering from a stroke and their support persons.

Topics: "Rehabilitation after a stroke" (April 1st); "Prevention of future strokes" (April 15th); and "Stroke in different areas of the brain; right vs. left" (April 29th).

**Crohn's and Colitis:** Tuesday, April 21st, 7:00 p.m. In Conference Room A.

Free of charge and open to all suffering from Crohn's or Colitis and their support persons. Heidi Domingues Kolek, M.D., will entertain questions and answers for the IBD patient.

**Diabetes Support Group:** Tuesday, April 28th, 1:00 p.m. In Conference Room A.

Free of charge and open to all suffering from diabetes and their support persons. Linda Lissack, Paralegal Advocate at Western Mass. Legal Services, will speak about changes in Medicare at this meeting.

### COURSES/PROGRAMS:

**Smoking Cessation - "Forgetting Cigarettes":** Mondays, April 6th and 13th, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. In Conference Room A.

Two-part program utilizes hypnosis to eliminate your desires for smoking and allow you to forget cigarettes forever. Presented by Joe Barako, R.N. and Certified Hypnotherapist.

The registration fee is \$40 and is paid the even-

ing of the first session. Seating is limited, and pre-registration is required.

To pre-register or for more information, call Noble Hospital's Health Beat at (413) 568-2328.

**CPR Course:** Two-part course — Wednesdays, April 15th and 22nd, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. In the Education Department/Ground Floor of Noble Hospital.

This course provides American Heart Association Adult, Child, and Infant certification. Cost of the course is \$45.

To register or obtain more information, call the Noble Hospital Education Department at (413) 568-2811, ext. 5914.

**14th Annual Run For A Noble Cause (5-K Road Race and Kid's Race):** Saturday, April 25th, 8:30 a.m. Sponsored by Noble Hospital.

Registration is limited to 350. The registration fee is \$8 in advance, and \$10 on the day of the race. The Kid's Race is free.

Awards will be given for all divisions. Call Noble Hospital's Health Beat, (413) 568-2328, for a registration form or more information.

**Children's Olympics:** Saturday, May 2nd, 8:30 a.m. At Billy Bullens Field. Sponsored by Noble Hospital and the YMCA of Greater Springfield.

Registration is limited to 250. The registration fee is \$6 for one child, \$8 for two children, \$10 for three children, and \$12 for four or more children in the same family.

Children five through 12 years of age will compete in "Olympic Events," which include hurdles, softball throw, 50-yard dash, sack race, and standing broad jump. Medals will be awarded to the top three finishers (boys and girls) in each age division.

Pre-registration is required prior to April 22nd. Call Noble Hospital's Health Beat, (413) 568-2328, for a registration form or more information.

**"FOR YOUR HEALTH" is another reason why you turn our pages each and every week — ADVERTISER NEWS!!!**

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## For Your Health - continued...



### Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph  
S. Schlaffer  
Schlaffer  
Chiropractic Offices  
192 Shoemaker Lane  
Agawam

### Detecting Spinal Problems

Years of training and experience, plus sophisticated techniques, enable your doctor of chiropractic to detect spinal problems. But here are some simple things you can do to find out if your spine is healthy.

**1. Unbalanced Shoulders or Hips:** Stand in front of a mirror and pick the same point on both hips and shoulders. Compare these points by imagining two horizontal lines connecting the points. They should be level.

**2. Head Off-Center:** Have a photo taken in front of a bare background. Draw a line connecting your hips. Draw a vertical line from the center of the line up through the center of your head. Does your head line up evenly with the center of your hips or is it off-center? Do the same with a side photo. Is your head tilting forward or backward?

**3. Range Of Motion:** Can you tilt and rotate your head and hips through a full range of motion without any pain or restriction? Both sides should have the same range of motion and be pain free, without any clicking or grinding noises.

**4. Leg Length Inequality:** Except in rare cases (an improperly healed fracture or muscle or joint disease), both legs should be the same length. But when your skeleton is out of alignment, you give the appearance of having a short leg. For this test, you need an assistant. With your shoes on, lie face down. Have your tester stand behind you. Then look down at your feet. Gently push your heels toward your head and compare where the heels meet the shoes. They should line up.

**5. Dual Scales:** Place two bathroom scales side-by-side and stand with one foot on each. The weight distribution should be about the same. If not, it is a sign that your spine, hips, or head are off-center.

**6. Foot Flare:** While walking, simply look down at your feet. Do they both point forward, or does one foot appear to flare outward or inward? Do both? Foot flare may be a sign of a problem in the lower spine or hips.

If you see problems demonstrated by these simple, home self-tests, it is advisable to seek a chiropractic examination. Our offices are conveniently located at 192 Shoemaker Lane. Call 789-1369 or 789-1073.

## Providence Hospital Has Support Group For Parents Of Kids With Drug/Alcohol Problems

Providence Hospital offers a weekly support group for parents of children with drug or alcohol abuse problems. The group meets Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at the hospital, 1233 Main St.

The meetings provide an opportunity for parents whose children are currently involved with substance abuse, or have been in the past, to share ideas on how to deal with the problem. There is no charge for the sessions.



**Chiropractic Care**  
by  
**Dr. Tami Nelson**  
Chiropractic Physician  
Hampden County  
Chiropractic  
850 Springfield St.  
Feeding Hills  
786-4820

### The Benefits Of Heat & Ice

Oftentimes patients will ask about when they should use ice or heat. Many times heat will be used as an inappropriate time and actually increase the patient's discomfort.

Ice and heat are wonderful modalities to use at home, but it is important to use them correctly. Moist heat provides nice thermal action. Physiological effects include vasodilation, hyperemia, muscle relaxation, and sedation of the nervous system.

The temperature should be approximately 170 degrees F. Time should be 10-20 minutes. Heat should **not** be applied to a pregnant uterus, any area of inflammation, an active malignancy, active tuberculosis, diabetes mellitus, encapsulated swellings, and thermal nerve deficiencies.

Heat is wonderful after working a long day and the muscles are aching and sore, or the low back pain experienced with the menstrual cycle, or deep arthritis pain, or during times of increased stress. It should not be used if you have just injured yourself or have acute, sharp pain.

The pain is usually due to inflammation. Since heat is a vasodilator, it increases the blood supply to the region, and thus, increases the inflammation. So the heat may feel good while it's on, but 20 minutes later, the patient is usually in a lot more pain due to the increase in inflammation.

During these times of acute pain, ice should be applied. The action of ice is hypothermal. Some of the physiological benefits include local anesthesia, local vasoconstriction, prevents local swelling, and increases respiration (breathing).

Ice should **not** be used with shivering, weakness, or advanced cardiovascular disease. Ice packs are available, or ice can be placed in a plastic bag. Put a towel or paper towel between the skin and the ice pack. Apply 10-15 minutes one time per hour.

Ice is great for acute injuries, ankle sprains, and localized pain. The following stages occur when ice is applied: 1) burning; 2) aching; 3) intense pain for 15 seconds; 4) anesthesia. The stages occur in seven to 12 minutes. You can see that ice needs to be applied for longer than five minutes to achieve the benefits.

If you have any questions regarding the application of heat or ice, don't hesitate to give our office a call at 786-4820.

### DELL - from Page 23...

coffee, as well as a high-sodium intake, can cause the body to lose calcium and may increase calcium requirements.

Some students sweat the pressure of college, others gain weight. More than three in 10 college students say they've gained weight since they've left home. To battle the "freshman 15," the survey showed students drinking water (57 percent) and fruit drinks (15 percent) for weight loss. However, one cup of many fruit juices contains 180 calories, while one cup of skim milk has just 80 calories.

On March 23rd, the "Milk, Where's Your Mustache" booth was at the University of Massachusetts Amherst as part of a nationwide 100-city tour. Amherst students had the chance to get their own milk mustache photo taken and win a chance to be in a milk mustache ad in *The Daily Collegian* and also on the milk Web site (<http://www.whymilk.com>). One student will be chosen among the winners from selected universities along the nationwide 100-city tour to appear in a milk ad in a future issue of *Rolling Stone* magazine.

Students also had the opportunity to get their milk mustache photo taken with celeb cutouts, like supermodel Tyra Banks and rock stars Eddie and Alex Van Halen. Nancy Dell, a local registered dietitian, was also on hand to test student's milk IQ and to help answer questions about milk and why it's just as important to drink milk during college as it was in high school.

"This is a time when college students are making choices that may stick with them through adulthood," says Dell. "They need to think before they drink, and choosing a nutrient-packed beverage like milk, over soda or coffee, is not only a delicious choice, but a healthy one."

You can learn more about milk and the health benefits of milk by hooking up to the interactive milk Web site at <http://www.whymilk.com/>. At the milk Web site, you can receive a customized diet analysis from a "personal trainer."

Nancy Dell, MS, is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association.

### best hometown news...

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## Happy 21st Birthday, Scottie "G."

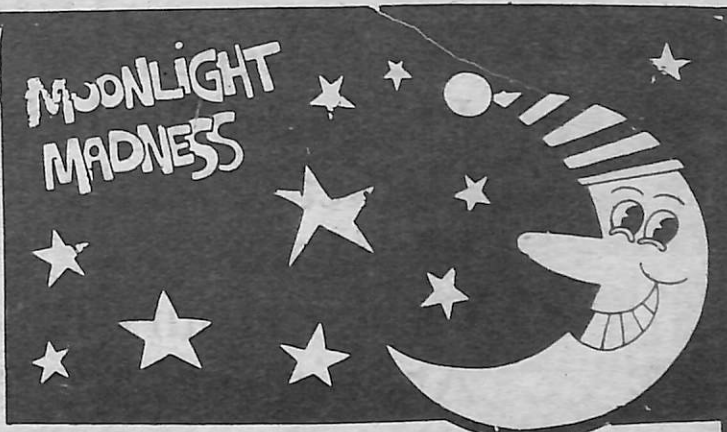


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## Arts

### Shelly Thomas Featured Artist On April 3rd

The old world artistry of the potter's wheel comes to life as the Agawam Community Artists present their April program. Potter Shelly Thomas will be this month's featured artist. Shelly will share her talent and knowledge of this age-old art form.

Please join us on Thursday evening, April 2nd at 7:00 p.m., at the Captain Leonard House, 633 Main Street, Agawam.

Under the auspices of the Agawam Cultural Council, meetings and demonstrations of the Agawam Community Artists are free and open to the public.

For additional information regarding the Agawam Community Artists or any of the artists that have been featured in our schedule of monthly programs, please contact Florida Tangocci at 786-3689.

*Best local news...*



POTTER SHELLEY THOMAS will be at the Captain Charles Leonard House on Thursday, April 2nd.

### Westfield Artist To Exhibit At Ag. Library

The Agawam Public Library is pleased to present the artwork of Norman Lacombe of Westfield in the gallery of the library for the month of April.

Lacombe says the outdoors is a living studio for him. He feels that painting outdoors is a way of capturing nature in its true form.

Most of his work is done on location because he feels it is the best way to express true colors, shadows, and reflections. Lacombe paints most of his works on masonite because it is durable and weather-resistant.

Artists such as Van Gogh, Monet, Cezanne, and Edward Hopper have influenced him. When you look at some of his work, you see the painting styles used by the masters.

Lacombe is a member of the Holyoke League of Arts, and has displayed his work at the George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum in Springfield, the Wistariahurst Museum in Holyoke, and other private shows.

This exhibit will contain scenes of Holyoke, Westfield, Shelburne Falls, and surrounding towns, plus a recent project of a picture of the *Titanic*.

The gallery hours for viewing the artwork are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### Western Mass. Genealogical Society To Meet At Historical Museum On Wednesday, April 1st

The Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society will meet at 7:00 p.m. on April 1st at the Connecticut Valley Historical Museum in Springfield.

Guest speakers are David S. Cohen of Longmeadow and Donald J. Gosselin of Chicopee, who have formed a Judeo-Christian team to relate what they witnessed at the end of WWII when they were among U.S. troops who liberated concentra-

tion camps in Europe.

The two were members of different U.S. Army units who liberated different camps, and had themselves not met until a few years ago, but their concern that people today question whether the Holocaust truly occurred has led them to join in presenting a program to document what they saw more than 50 years ago.

They are intent on revealing the truth while they

still have the time, in hope that people will never again stand by while evil and hate are let loose on other humans because of who they are or what they believe.

As usual, the genealogical library at the Museum will open for members' research at 5:00 p.m. For more information, please call (413) 534-7406.

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AGAWAM NATIVE MOONYEAN FIELD as Aunt Sue rehearses a scene with Ernie Desroches of Chicopee for the upcoming production of "No, No, Nanette."

## Town Native To Star In Enfield Production

Agawam native Moonyean Field will be appearing in the principal role of Aunt Sue in the upcoming St. Martha Players Cabaret Theater production of No, No, Nanette.

This light-hearted comedy, which opens April 24th, revolves around an innocent ingenue, and amorous complications resulting from mistaken identity. The score includes such Vincent Youmans hits as "Tea for Two" and "I Want to Be Happy."

Field has performed in, directed, and costumed numerous St. Martha Players productions. Some of her most memorable performances included Mary in Little Mary Sunshine, Bonnie in Anything Goes, Vera in Mame, Annie in Annie Get Your Gun, and Meg in Damn Yankees.

In addition to her role as Aunt Sue, she is also costuming this 1920's musical. She is a past president of the St. Martha Players, and currently serves as Vice President of Procedures for the group.

Performances of No, No, Nanette are April 24th, 25th, and May 1st, 2nd, 8th, 9th, 16th at 8:00 p.m. A 2:00 p.m. matinee is also scheduled for May 17th. The Players' theater space is located in Goulet Hall at the St. Martha School on Brainard Road in Enfield. Tickets for No, No, Nanette are \$12 for adults and \$10 for seniors and children under 12. Reservations may be made by calling (860) 745-6368.

The St. Martha Players Cabaret Theater, now entering its 30th anniversary year, is the oldest community theater group in the area performing exclusively musical theater. The group currently performs two shows each season, set in a unique cabaret setting.

## Junior Women's Club Still Seeking Crafters For June 6th Crafts Fair

The Agawam Junior Women's Club 24th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair is scheduled for Saturday, June 6, 1998 from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

The Fair will be held on the grounds of the Captain Charles Leonard House at 663 Main Street in Agawam. Many artisans and crafters from surrounding communities and states will feature a wide variety of quality arts and crafts. The show will be juried and feature approximately 80-100 exhibitors.

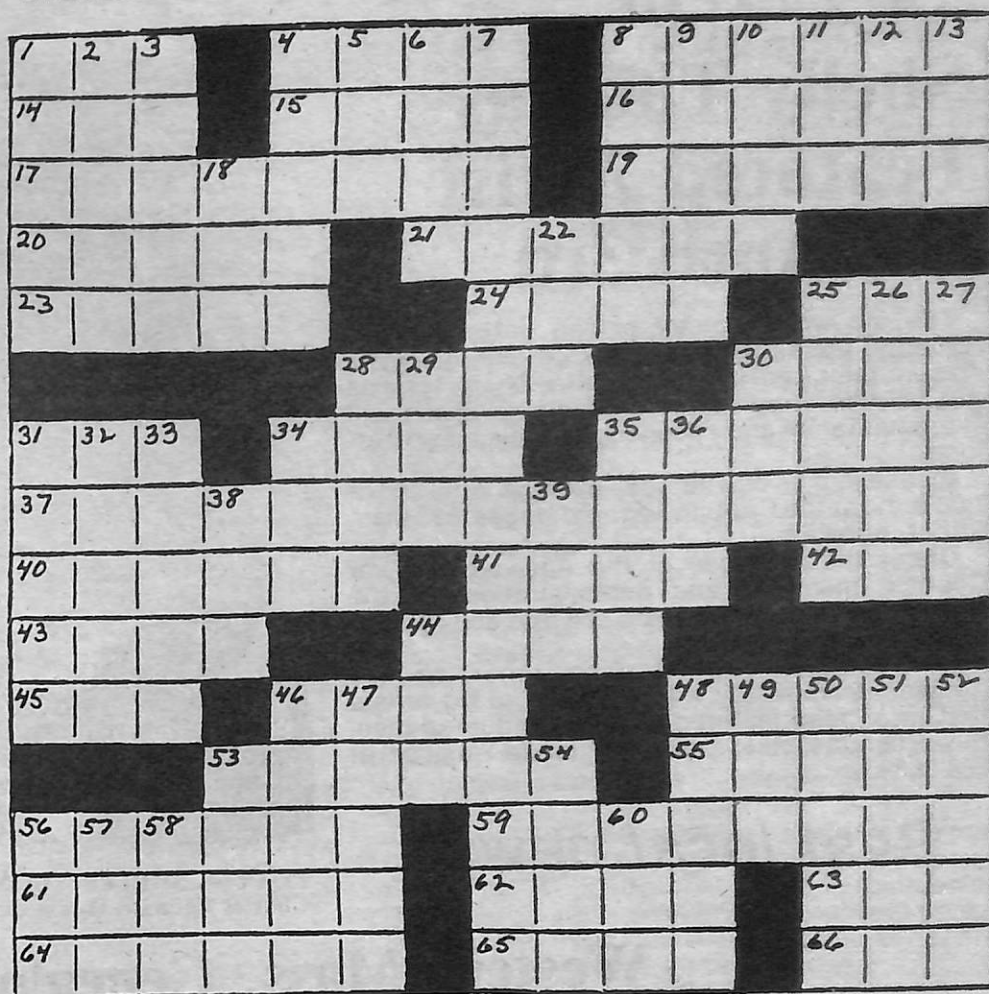
### ACROSS

- 1 Actress Dawber
- 4 "Not — snuff"
- 8 Malt shop favorites
- 14 Actor Vigoda
- 15 Aryan
- 16 Suit maker
- 17 Scores in baseball
- 19 Commands
- 20 Maine or Vermont
- 21 Fielding miscues
- 23 Chemical compound
- 24 What a tout offers
- 25 Viper
- 28 Santa's cheerful sound
- 30 Sea eagle
- 31 Orange pekoe
- 34 "— or less"
- 35 Pilots
- 37 Dorothy's way to the Emerald City
- 40 Golfing events
- 41 Bone (prefix)
- 42 Roads (abbr.)
- 43 German ones
- 44 Clubs for Aaron
- 45 Actress Ruby
- 46 "Good —" (Boy Scout action)
- 48 Peace march city
- 53 They run high
- 55 Do housework
- 56 Argue in a formal manner
- 59 Overbearing
- 61 Come to life
- 62 Partner of a pant
- 63 Female sandpiper
- 64 Abandon
- 65 Admiral Graf
- 66 Gains on a football field

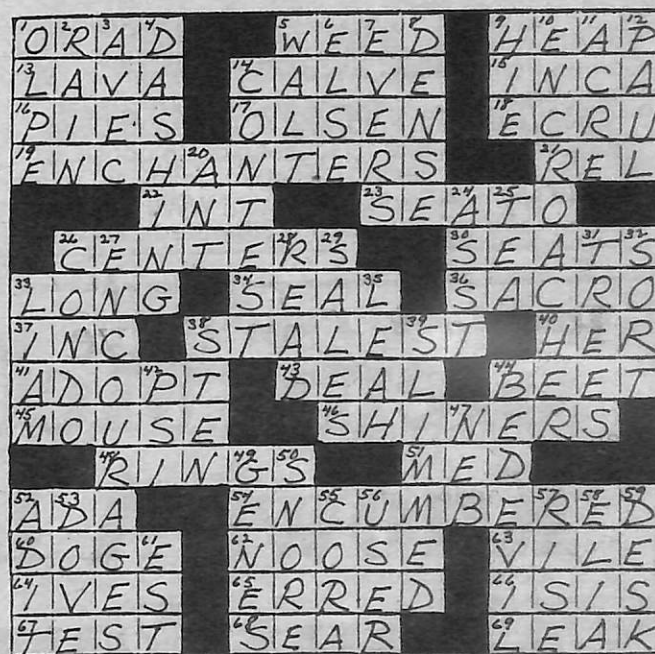
### DOWN

- 1 Break down a sentence
- 2 Is contiguous to
- 3 "— Work" (street sign)
- 4 Wedding party member
- 5 Arafat's org.
- 6 Domesticate
- 7 Superhighway traffic
- 8 Bend over
- 9 Young salmon
- 10 Pot covers
- 11 "— de France"
- 12 Peak
- 13 Elders for short
- 18 Female saint
- 22 "— Grande"
- 25 Knight's protective covering
- 26 Slamming Sammy of golf
- 27 In the wings
- 28 "— every little thing?"
- 29 Sphere
- 30 Go wrong
- 31 Used a keyboard
- 32 Scary
- 33 By oneself
- 34 Best apple pie maker
- 35 Takes steps
- 36 Presidential nickname
- 38 "— Vegas"
- 39 Follower (suffix)
- 44 "Busy as a —"
- 46 Hold back
- 47 Blessed follower
- 48 Range
- 49 Building addition
- 50 Suspicious
- 51 Like a male lion
- 52 Puts into the pot
- 53 Sham
- 54 Break in two
- 56 Mate of 34 Down
- 57 Lamb
- 58 "— relief"
- 60 Compass heading

## MEET THE MASTER — by Dick Mastroianni



### Last Week's Solution...



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## Rep. Keenan Says Festival Of Arts Set For April 17-May 3

*A Popular Cultural And Tourist Destination In Connecticut River Valley*

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan is pleased to announce that the fifth annual Massachusetts International Festival of the Arts (MIFA) will take place April 17 through May 3, 1998. The events will be presented in various venues throughout the Connecticut River Valley.

The Massachusetts International Festival of the Arts is an annual springtime festival which brings world-class opera, theater, concerts, and film to the Connecticut River Valley region of Massachusetts.

The Festival also highlights the outstanding work of Valley artists and arts organizations during festival time, and specializes in bringing attractions to the Valley that you would be more likely to encounter in a small European festival than in even a major American cultural center like Boston.

The Connecticut River Valley's geographic beauty and cultural history make it an ideal tourist destination. The Valley has a population of 750,000 and is within easy traveling distance of the Boston metropolitan area (1½ hours); the Hartford, Connecticut metropolitan area (45 minutes); the Albany and Worcester areas (1½ hours and 45 minutes, respectively); and the New York metropolitan area (three hours).

Market research shows that these areas constitute another 30.5 million inhabitants. The populations of all the aforementioned Northeastern communities are among the most interested in culture in America and represent the highest 10 percent in educational background and economic income.

Anyone interested in attaining more information on the Massachusetts International Festival of the Arts may contact Rep. Keenan's office at (413) 786-4545, or the Massachusetts International Festival of the Arts at 1-800-224-MIFA.

## Boy Scout Troop 82 To Hold Car Wash/Bottle & Can Drive

Boy Scout Troop 82 will hold a Car Wash/Bottle and Can Drive on Saturday, April 11th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church parking lot.

Stop by to have your car washed (\$2.50) and drop off your cans and bottles to help the scouts fund their activities.

## Westfield Theatre Group To Present *The Sound Of Music*

The Westfield Theatre Group, a department of the Westfield Woman's Club, will present the Rodgers and Hammerstein classic *The Sound of Music* to continue its 1997-1998 season. The show is directed by Larry Andersen and assistant director Kathleen Palmer. Musical direction is being provided by Karen Lampiasi.

Show dates are April 17th, 18th, 24th, 25th, and May 1st and 2nd, all at 8:00 p.m. There will be special matinees on the last two Saturdays of the run, April 25th and May 2nd, at 2:00 p.m.

This performance of *The Sound of Music* features Westfield residents Susan Ingraham as Maria and Bill Storozzyk as Captain Von Trapp. Tom Gannon, former band director of Westfield High School, will play Max Detweiler, with Karen Zorzi as Elsa.

Pat Thomas will portray Mother Abbess, with Maria Derouin, Ann Garner, and Maureen McEvady as Sisters Margaretta, Berthe, and Sophia. Other cast members include Shelley Haber as Frau Schmidt, Tom LeCourt as Franz, and Matt Worden as Rolf.

The Von Trapp children will be played by Kristin Donnelly, John Farrell, Lindsey Herring, Rob Morgan, Tricia Hatch, Amy Sittler, and Camille Coppola. Other cast members include Robert Williams, Laura Van Iderstine, Leigh Whiting Jones, Jackie Gilmartin, Chris Mangano, Marion Dunk, and Jessica Wisniewski.

Tickets for *The Sound of Music* will be \$12.50 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors. Reservations may be made by calling the Westfield Theatre Group at 572-6838. All performances will be held at the Westfield Woman's Club, 28 Court Street, Westfield.

The performance slated for Saturday, April 18th, at 8:00 p.m. is a benefit performance for the Westfield Area Mental Health Clinic, and all reservations for that performance must be made by calling 568-1421.

The box office will be open Monday through Thursday nights, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., starting April 13th, and we do suggest that you pick up tickets prior to performances.

## Buddy Holly Story Continues To Be Staged In West Side

When actor Ben Ashley concluded each night's performance in the title role of *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* at the Majestic Theater last spring, he invited the audience back because "Buddy Holly's back in town!"

Those words have proven to be prophetic, as the Theater Project will stage an enormous presentation of the rock and roll bio-play, which they presented upon reopening the Majestic Theater and ran for 30 sold-out performances. Theater Project founder Danny Eaton will direct the show. Also returning will be Stephen Makowski, who will be the musical director, Judith Sidney, who will be the costume designer, and Jennifer Brown, who will stage manage, with assistance from Nancy Kotzen.

*Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* will run from April 2nd through May 9th. Reprising their roles as Buddy and the Crickets will be Ashley, David Healey, Tim Hosmer, and Doug Wallace.

Musical performers, most of whom will be returning as well, include Judy Brinn, Al Dziedzic, Howard Hall, Ivy Harman, Butch Lewis, Ralph and Dena Martin, Woody McLoyd, Don Rovero, and LeRoy Starks. Reprising their roles as Ritchie Valens and The Big Bopper will be Frank Manzi and Aaron Porchelli.

The Theater Project is a professional non-Equity organization that has staged CTA Festival Award Winning Productions in 1992, 1993, and 1994. In addition, it has received numerous honors, including Best Production in the Pioneer Valley in 1995 for *To Kill a Mockingbird* and in 1994 for *The Winds of Fashioning Time*, Eaton's original play, inspired by the death house letters of Ethel Rosenberg.

Tickets for *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* range from \$12.00 to \$19.50 depending on the time of performance, and can be purchased by calling the box office at (413) 747-7797. Box office hours are Saturday (10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.), Tuesday/Thursday/Friday (2:00-5:00 p.m.), and Wednesday (4:00-8:00 p.m.).

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## Education

### Agawam Junior High Presents "Song Of The Mounties"

The Agawam Junior High School Drama Club proudly presented the play "Song of the Mounties" on Friday, March 20th, in the school auditorium.

Under the leadership of stage crew advisor Mrs. Mary White and advisors Richard Condon, Mrs. Brenda McDade, and Mrs. Donna Scherpa, the club members performed for their seventh- and eighth-grade classmates on Friday morning, and then they entertained their families and friends with an evening performance.

The seventh- and eighth-graders enjoyed the morning show, and those in attendance during the evening performance thought that it was a terrific production.

Congratulations to all of the following students for doing an outstanding job:

#### CHARACTERS

Tara Witte, Sabrina; Jodie Pfau, Claudette Beaucoup; Katie Feato, Mayo River; April Rondeau, Mrs. Muchmoney; Renee Couture, Zachariah Pumphandle (morning performance); Michael Lalli, Zachariah Pumphandle (evening performance); Alyssa Goodrow, Princess Redwing; Matthew Couture, Dirty Jake Le Phew; Jennifer Dobise, Skipalong; Lucy Young, Tall Timber Tess; Brittany Shields, Matilda Dogwood; Anthony Barbarisi, Sergeant Bob Sledd; Cassandra Greco, Yukon Mutt; Jessica Roy, Judge Knott; Sarah Hamel, Lizzie Tish; and Laura Zerra, Town Scoundrel.

#### TOWNSPEOPLE

Danya Decoteau, Kelly Doyle, Renate Klueh, Michael Lalli, Kimberly Landry, Christopher Martin, Jennifer Sharpe, Brittany Theriaque, and Ashley Marek.

#### SCENERY AND PROPS

Danya Decoteau, Kelly Doyle, Renate Klueh, Kimberly Landry, and Jennifer Sharpe.

#### STAGE MANAGER

Katelyn Tierney.

#### STAGE CREW

Jennifer Jutte, Nick Cote, Evan LaBonte, Joshua Nicholls, Joshua Skinner, Kimberly Smith, and Richard Montagna.

### Agawam Musicians To Compete In Festival At Berklee College

On Saturday, March 28th, student musicians from Agawam High School, under the direction of Tamara J. Watson, will compete with large ensembles and combos from nine Northeastern states at the 30th Annual Berklee College High School Jazz Festival.

On the campus of Berklee College of Music in Boston, the festival will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 5:00 p.m.

Since its inception in 1968, the Berklee College High School Jazz Festival has hosted more than 30,000 students in over 2,000 ensembles. The largest of its kind in the United States, the festival will feature nearly 2,500 student musicians this year, from 170 jazz ensembles from all six New England states, as well as New York, New Jersey, and Delaware.

The student ensemble performances, at various locations around the campus, will be judged by professional adjudicators, including members of the Berklee faculty. Groups will compete for Best Band trophies, citation plaques, and tuition scholarships totaling \$100,000.

The Berklee Performance Center, 136 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, will be the site of several free, public performances that day, including the New England Grammy All-Star Combo, Vocal Jazz Choir, and Big Band from 11:30 a.m.-12:40 p.m. The Student "Grammy Awards" will be presented at 1:15. Several Berklee student ensembles will also perform during the afternoon, and at 4:30, Seaside Recording artists, the Greg Hopkins Big Band, led by the Berklee Jazz Composition and Professional Writing professor, will close the festival.

Founded in 1945, Berklee College of Music recently completed its 50th year of advancing careers in contemporary music. The world's largest independent college of music, Berklee has a multicultural enrollment of 2,850 students, 40 percent of whom are international. The college's alumni include some of the most respected figures in contemporary music and many multi-Grammy award winners.

## ADVERTISER NEWS



THE AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB presented "The Song of the Mounties" on Friday, March 20th, in the school auditorium. The production was called a huge success by many of those who attended the Friday evening performance.

### 11th Annual Miss Agawam Pageant Set For March 31st

The 11th Annual Miss Agawam Beauty Pageant & Talent Competition will take place on Tuesday, March 31st, at Chez Josef, Shoemaker Lane, Agawam.

The talent competition will take place at 6:00 p.m., and the pageant will commence at 7:00 p.m.

The admission is \$7 for adults and \$6 for students, and tickets can be purchased at the door.

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## Agawam High Guidance Report

by Paul C. Cavallo  
Chairman

### Guidance Bulletin...

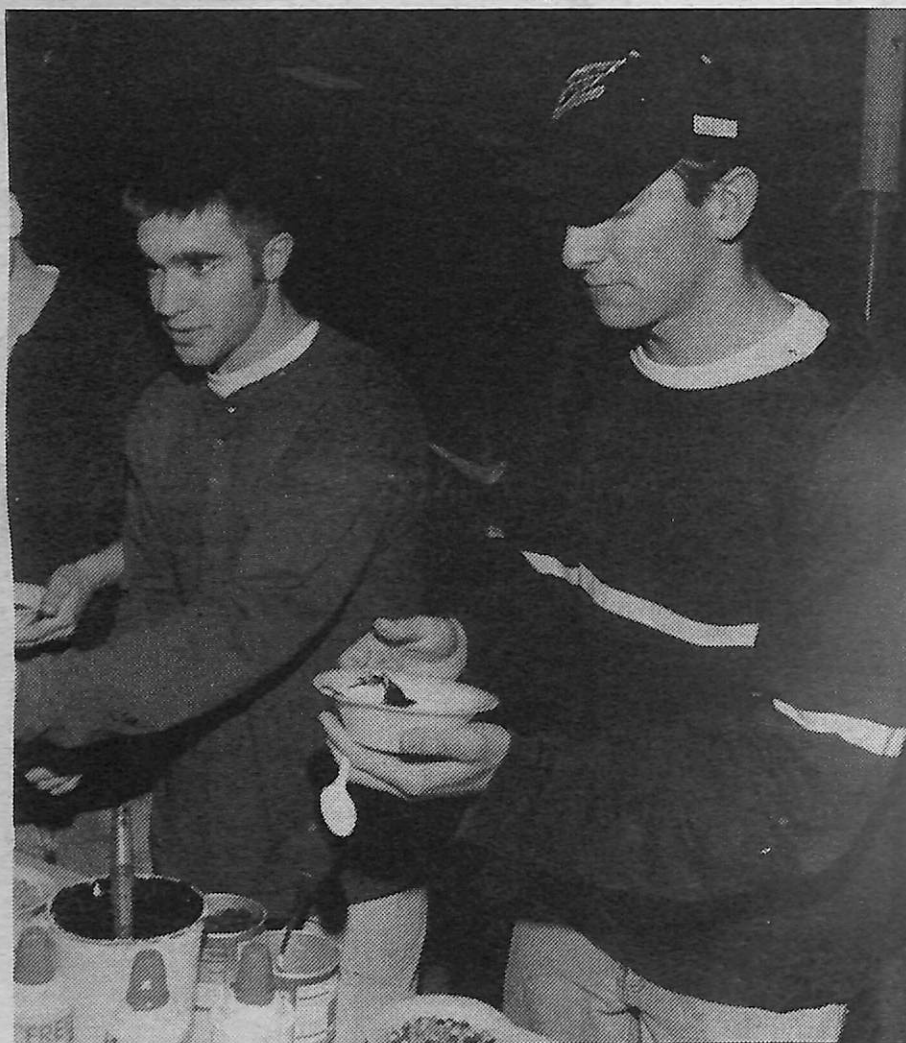
**COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES:** Congratulations!  
**Sarah Bonini:** Stonehill College.  
**Jaime Callahan:** Westfield State College.  
**Kyle Gendron:** Holyoke Community College.  
**Stephanie Domainque:** Simmons College.  
**Dan Hendrix:** University of Miami.  
**James Crowley:** Fordham University.  
**Seema Gada:** George Washington University.  
**Erin Ottomaniello:** St. Lawrence University,  
 Westfield State College.  
**Jennifer Zerra:** Boston University.  
**Nikki Lawson:** Springfield College.  
**Michele Ingalls:** University of Massachusetts.  
**Beckie Mutti:** Holyoke Community College.  
**Carmen Gonzalez:** Springfield Technical Com-  
 munity College.  
**Dianna Abdala:** Boston University.  
**Stephanie O'Brien:** Holyoke Community Col-  
 lege.  
**Stefanie Karam:** Springfield Technical Com-  
 munity College.  
**Lee Kunkler:** Fitchburg State College.  
**Jon Couture:** University of Massachusetts,  
 Syracuse University, Boston University.  
**Ryan White:** University of Rhode Island,  
 Muhlenberg College, Stonehill College.  
**Courtney Locke:** Stonehill College.  
**Vincent Curto:** Holyoke Community College,  
 Springfield Technical Community College.  
**Karen Shaw:** Wheelock College.  
**Melissa Boissonneault:** Wheelock College.  
**Jill DeMarco:** State University of New York at  
 Albany.  
**Maureen Dimock:** American University.  
**Michael Beaudry:** Springfield Technical Com-  
 munity College.  
**Julie Pisano:** Hesser College, Holyoke Com-  
 munity College, Springfield Technical Community  
 College.  
**Shannon Pfeffer:** Holyoke Community College.  
**Andrea Elias:** Springfield Technical Community  
 College.  
**Bryan O'Quinn:** Campbell University, University  
 of Vermont.

\*\*\*  
**SCHOLARSHIPS:** See your counselor for more  
 information or an application.

**West Springfield-Agawam Lodge No. 2174  
 Scholarship:** A scholarship of \$250 will be made  
 to a boy and a girl graduate from each of Agawam  
 and West Springfield High Schools. Each must be  
 a resident of the town in which the high school is  
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 ners will be academic standing, character,  
 evidence of leadership and citizenship, and  
 demonstrated family need. Deadline: April 15,  
 1998.

## ADVERTISER NEWS

## Chamber Of Commerce Supports Renaissance



**MEMBERS OF THE**  
 Agawam Chamber of  
 Commerce rewarded  
 Agawam High School  
 Renaissance members  
 for their good grades  
 and good citizenship  
 with an ice cream party  
 on March 19th. IN  
 TOP PHOTO, School  
 Committee member  
 Susan Pettazzoni (left)  
 helps in the serving line  
 with Chamber mem-  
 bers Richard Bellico,  
 Linda Northrup Vito,  
 and Rita Ducharme.  
 IN PHOTO LEFT,  
 AHS students Dan  
 Balbony and Jeff  
 Machia make their  
 sundaes. Advertiser News  
 photos by Jack Devine.

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 Julianne Rapalus Gallerani, OD

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## Scholarship Fair Held At Agawam High School



IN TOP PHOTO, Grace Tilden (left) was representing the Agawam Congregational Church, and Tom Leahy and Mary Manning were reps. from the Agawam Democratic Town Committee at the Annual Agawam High School Scholarship Fair held earlier this month. IN PHOTO BELOW, Peter Tilden and Cecelia Lang were reps from the Agawam Chamber of Commerce. RELATED PHOTO ON NEXT PAGE. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

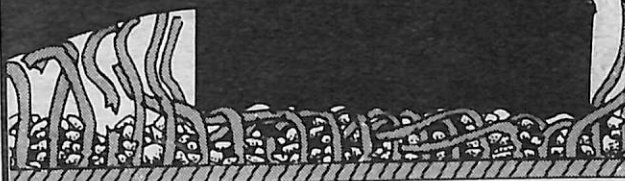


IN TOP PHOTO, Rosalie Dialessi (left) represented the Agawam Junior Women's Club, and Rosemarie Maniscalco and Eileen Egan were reps from the Agawam Lioness Club at the Annual Agawam High School Scholarship Fair. IN PHOTO BELOW, Ken Kubik (left), Bob Binnenkade, and Mary K. Labun were reps. from the Polish American Club and the club's Women's Auxiliary (Mary). RELATED PHOTO ON NEXT PAGE. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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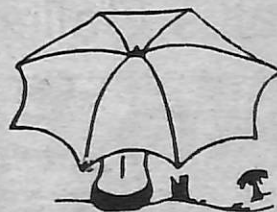
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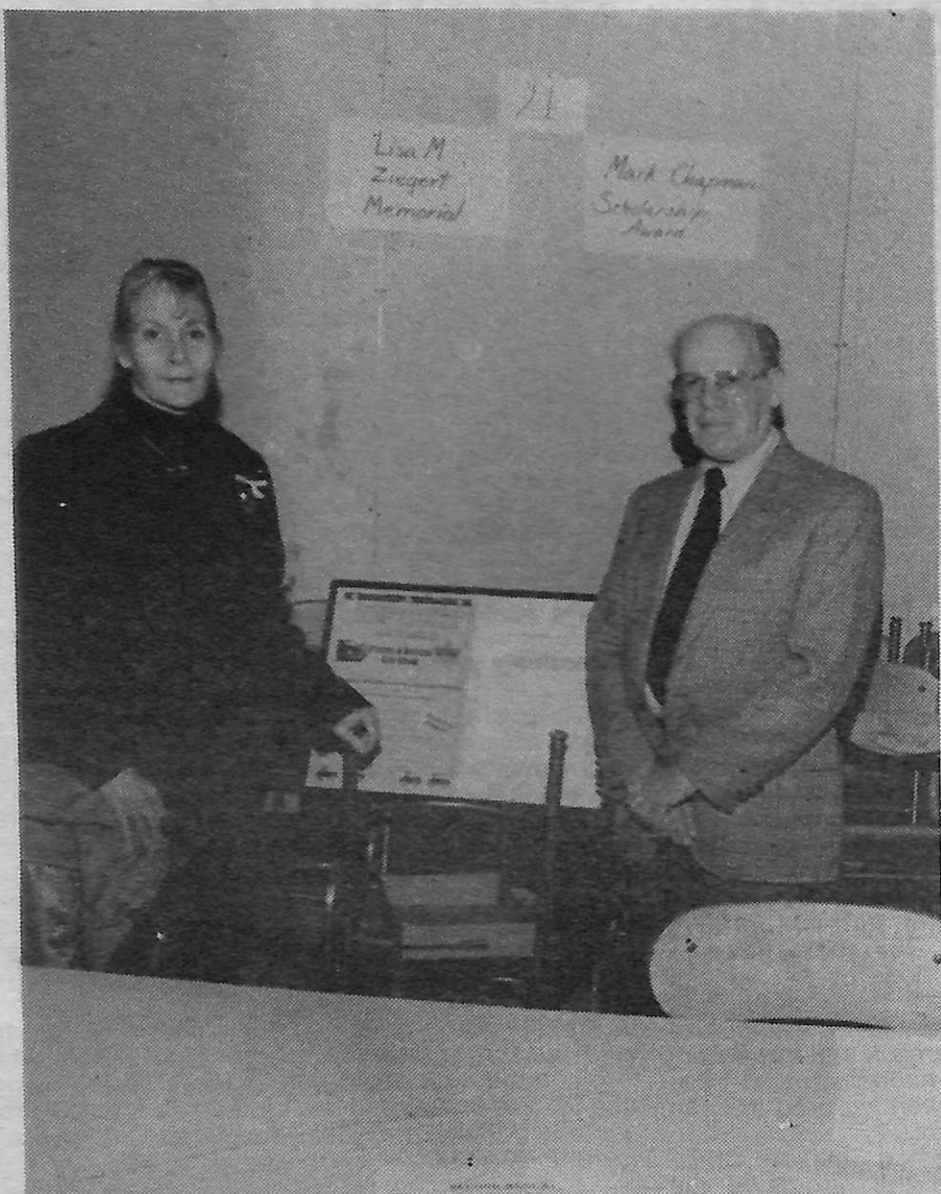
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## AHS Scholarship Fair Held



DEE ZIEGERT was on hand for the Lisa M. Ziegert Memorial Scholarship and Dick Chapman represented the Mark Chapman Scholarship Award at the recent Scholarship Fair held at Agawam High School. RELATED PHOTOS ON PREVIOUS PAGE. Advertiser photo by Jack Devine.

Check our classified pages every week

## EASTER PLANT SALE



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## Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, March 30th:** Steamed frankfort in roll, oven-baked beans, oven potato rounds with catsup, chilled peaches in syrup, milk.

**Tuesday, March 31st:** Spaghetti with meatsauce, tossed garden salad with spinach greens and creamy dressing, chilled diced pears or strawberry jello with topping, milk.

**Wednesday, April 1st:** Oven-baked turkey nuggets with honey, whipped potatoes, seasoned diced carrots, wheat bread and butter, chocolate cake with vanilla icing, milk.

**Thursday, April 2nd:** Meatballs in tomato sauce, buttered macaroni, niblet corn, Italian bread and butter, rosy applesauce or orange jello with topping, milk.

**Friday, April 3rd:** Grilled cheese sandwich, pickle chips, oven French fries with catsup, chocolate pudding with topping or fresh Mac apple, milk.

## AHS Students Win Press Awards At AIC Scholastic Forum

Agawam High School students Maureen Dimock and Aimee LaBaff received awards at the 27th annual Scholastic Press Forum at American International College in Springfield.

During the day-long competition which featured workshops by newspaper, television, and radio professionals, Dimock was recognized for her writing talents, and LaBaff was recognized for her fiction writing talents.

For 27 years, American International College has been bringing high school students and media professionals together for an interactive day of fun and learning. This year's Scholastic Press Forum, which was held March 11th, drew more than 500 high school students from throughout New England and New York.

Students heard from a host of media professionals, including Patti Norris, John Appleton, and Mary Ellen O'Shea, and photographer Chris Evans from the *Springfield Union News*; Howard Paine, former art director, *National Geographic*; Paul Loewenwarter, CBS; Lydia Kulbida and Brian Lapis, WWLP TV-22; Dave Madsen, WGGB TV-40; as well as representatives from *The Wall Street Journal*, the *Hartford Courant*, *The Valley Advocate*, ESPN, and NBC.

## Eric Clark Named To UMass Dean's List For Fall Semester

Feeding Hills resident Eric Clark, an English major, has been named to the Fall 1997 semester Dean's List at UMass Dartmouth.

To achieve the Dean's List, a student must have a grade point average of 3.2 or higher out of a possible 4.0.

## While Small Surplus Projected, Special Ed Budget Watched Closely

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

The good news: it looks like there will be a slight surplus in the Special Education budget in June.

The not-so-good news: there are still three months left in the school year and that's a long time in the world of Special Education, where an out-of-district placement for even one student can cost thousands of dollars.

At Tuesday night's School Committee meeting, Special Education (SPED) Director Dr. John Brosnan said he was imposing a spending freeze on some supplies accounts in the \$4.2 million Special Education budget in the hope of making it to the end of the school year without having to ask the School Committee for more money.

The bottom line on the SPED budget is projected to be a surplus of \$13,000, unless there are unforeseen expenses in the accounts that cover contracted psychological services and tuition for students placed at public or private schools outside the school district.

According to Brosnan, contracted psychological services and tuition are the two areas of the SPED budget that are nearly impossible to predict when making out his budget request. Not only is it impossible to predict 18 months in advance how many youngsters will require those services, the problem is compounded by the fact that parents can request independent and expensive psychological evaluations for their children (whenever an evaluation is done by the Special Education Department).

"Things are not quite as rosy as we would have wanted," Brosnan said. "There are still three months to go and anything can happen, but we have four programmers who are working hard to keep students in their home schools."

School Committee Chairman (Mayor) Christopher C. Johnson praised the efforts of the

Special Education Department in creating programs for special needs youngsters within the school district (rather than relying on expensive out-of-district placement to meet the needs of the students).

"... One Of The Most Progressive Districts ..."  
"Agawam is one of the most progressive districts in allowing kids to stay in the public schools," Johnson said. "We're keeping more of our kids in our community and providing them with a better education that is much less expensive than outside placement."

School Superintendent Frank Ameruso pointed out that both he and Brosnan share the same philosophy on using out-of-district placements as the last resort in providing special needs students with the appropriate services.

"Nobody goes to the collaborative unless there is nothing we can do for them here," Ameruso said.

While other school districts in surrounding towns are reporting deficits in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, Agawam is doing well in living within its budget, Ameruso said.

Despite a net gain of seven students needing out-of-district placements since the budget was prepared, Brosnan predicted the \$1.5 million tuition budget will show a surplus of \$10,436. The original appropriation for contracted psychological services (\$269,000) is expected to fall short by \$38,600, and the home/hospital tutor account (\$85,000) is expected to run a deficit of \$9,400.

The spending freeze on some supply accounts and the tuition surplus will cover \$33,500 of the projected deficit of \$48,000. However, by applying the \$27,000 remaining in a federal grant to the projected deficit, Brosnan predicted an overall surplus of \$13,000.

## Spring Blood Drive At Agawam High Set For Friday, April 3rd

Agawam and West Springfield High Schools are busy recruiting blood donors and at the same time, showing their community and competitive spirit.

They are competing to see which school can collect the most units of blood at their respective spring blood drives. Agawam High School's drive is on Friday, April 3rd and West Springfield High School's is on Thursday, April 9th.

Both drives will run from 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the schools' gyms.

These long-time rival high schools have collected thousands of pints of blood over the years for the American Red Cross. Each unit of blood collected is broken down into three components: red cells, platelets, and plasma. Therefore, each unit donated can help up to three different patients in need.

Donors wishing to donate blood at either of these drives can make an appointment by calling 737-4306. Walk-in donors are always welcome.

**All the school news with us, each & every week - Advertiser News!!!**

## School Poetry

### Cat-astrophe

*When we got this "cat" last week  
She seemed so nice, so tame, so meek,*

*But now this cat seems quite absurd,  
She won't obey a single word.*

*Last night she snuck into the trash,  
(When I woke up it was quite a mash!)*

*She got into my makeup and powdered her paws.  
She's starting to break all of my laws!*

*Oh, but it gets worse as time goes on,  
She yanks the curtains, sees me, then she's gone.*

*Then one day, guess what I found?  
Our goldfish lying on the ground!*

*Just ripped into pieces,  
This disaster never ceases.*

*And now I think this "cat" I see,  
Is hardly a "cat," she's a "Cat-astrophe"!*

**Carrye Martin  
Room 204 (Mr. Spiro)  
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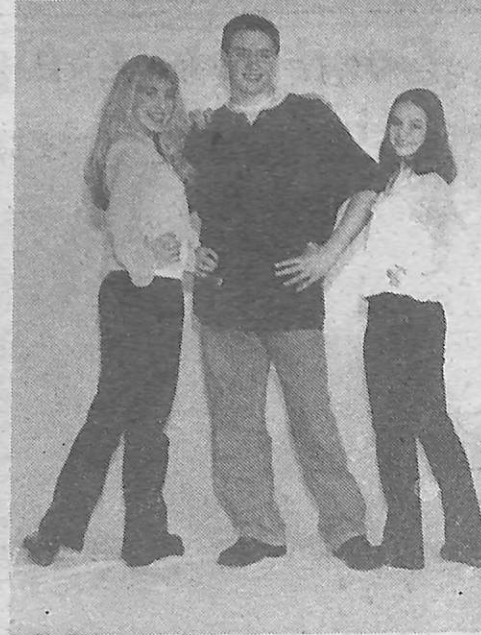
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# High

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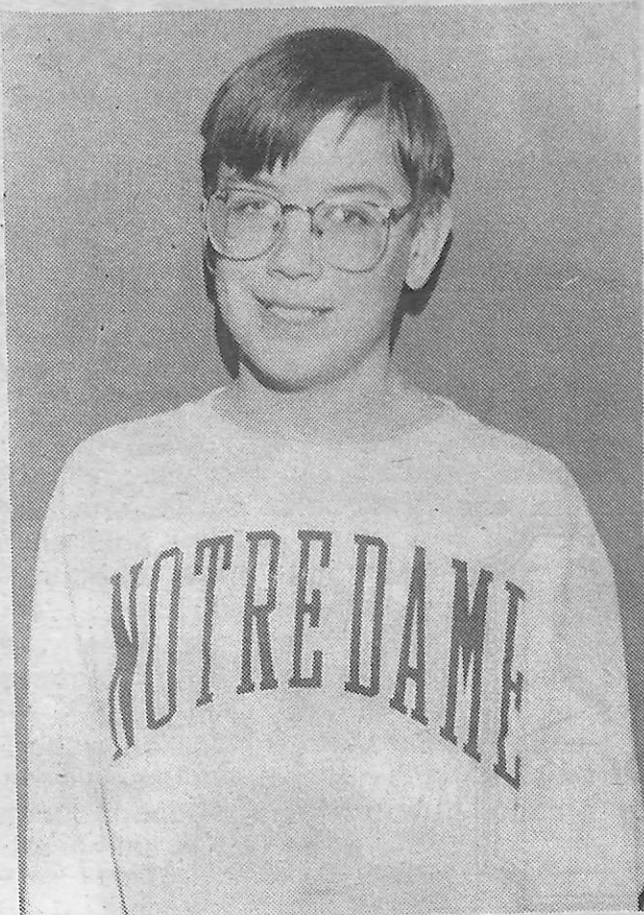
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## Good Job, Craig...



**CRAIG JENDZA**, an eighth grade student at the Junior High, has qualified to participate at the state level of the National Geography Bee sponsored by the National Geographic Society. The competition will take place on Friday, April 3rd, at Clark University in Worcester. Earlier this year, Craig won the school-wide Geography Bee and then took a written test to qualify for the state finals.

## Heritage Hall To Offer Scholarship

Heritage Hall, a member of the Genesis Elder-Care Network, is pleased to announce that they are offering a \$500 scholarship to an Agawam resident who is a high school senior graduating in June of 1998 and will be entering a two (2) or four (4) year accredited educational institution.

The applicant's major must be in a healthcare-related field such as, but not limited to, rehabilitation therapy, social work, etc.

The deadline for applications is April 1, 1998. Application materials may be received by calling Kim George, director of volunteer services at 786-8000, ext. 217.



**AGAWAM DARE OFFICER Karen Langevin** from the Agawam Police Department recently visited with Troop 580 of Phelps School to remind the Scouts of safety rules when they were selling Girl Scout Cookies.



GIRL SCOUTS

THE GIRL SCOUTS

AS GREAT AS YOU WANT TO MAKE IT

After a fall hayride and toasting marshmallows over a bonfire, **Agawam Middle School Jr. Brownie Troop 582** began our first meeting in the beginning of November. There are nine girls in our troop. We meet every other Friday night and our moms take turns having the meeting at their own house.

Our first meeting was terrific! It was fun being back together again. Our opening discussion was full of planning for the year. We made a hanging fall decoration, which made a beautiful Thanksgiving centerpiece.

We began working on our "Girl Scouts in the USA" badge, which involved getting to know how

Girl Scouting came about and what it's like to be a Girl Scout in other parts of the world.

At our next meeting in November, we made an Indian candy holder craft at Eileen's house and finished our badge.

*The preceding segment was written by Courtney Garret*

In December, **Junior Troop 582** made ornaments at Lisa's house and talked about the first Girl Scouts. We decorated folders to keep our precious Girl Scout memories of the year.

We picked names for Secret Santa to share at our next meeting, which was held at Jean's house. We exchanged our gifts, had pizza and homemade goodies.

After the party, we went to the Springfield Symphony Hall to see the Berkshire Ballet performance of *The Nutcracker*. One of our own troop members, **Alison Stanton** and her sister, Rebecca, were part of the cast. We enjoyed the performance more because we knew the people in the cast.

Everyone had a Merry Christmas and look forward to a happy New Year.

*This segment was written by Sara Mantha.*

Recently, Girls Scouts of Agawam held a unit fundraiser at the Rollaway. A good time was had by both the beginner and experienced skaters!

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## Sports

8 Make All WMass. Team...

# AHS Wrestlers Dominate Regional Team

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

What better way to top off a 16-1 season and a Western Mass. title (11th in 12 years) than with a bunch of selections to the All-Western Mass. Division I team?

Agawam High wrestling did just that, landing eight on the dream squad. How overwhelming were the selections? To start, there were only 20 spots. Ludlow High managed to put three wrestlers into the elite group. West Side had two, as did Central and Putnam. Longmeadow had one.

The Brownie selections represented just how deep Coach Phil Tomkiel's squad really is. Sophomore **Dave Moore** made it at 103. It was a fitting way to start off the second year of a promising career. So far, he has a total of 35 wins and 11 losses. This season, he went 25-4 with 12 pins to go along with his Western Mass. crown.

Yet, despite those honors, Moore's most memorable moment was beating Southwick's All-Western Mass. sophomore Dave Tingley, 6-2 in a 54-21 Brownie win earlier in the year. "He'd beaten me in a match last time we met and I wanted to return the favor," Moore admitted.

His most memorable moment with the team came in their final match meet against West Springfield. He shut out his opponent, 7-0. "Beating them is always a highlight," Moore smiled.

Senior **Kevin Suffriti** was an All-Western Mass. selection in the 112's. During his career, he wrestled in both the 112's and 119's. His career record stands at 48-12. This season, he went 21-6 with 11 pins. He finished second in Western Mass. in the 112's. Suffriti's most memorable moment came last season.

"Last year in Western Mass., I wrestled Central High's Roger Williams in the consolation round. He'd beaten me earlier in the year. I was unseeded. He was a top seed. I beat him to take a third place."

His most memorable moment with the team came when he was a sophomore in 1995. "That year, we won the state championship with great wrestlers like Jon Jacobsen, Andrew Ingham, Kirk Parker, and Dan Vargas," he smiled.

Brownie great and co-captain **Kevin McKay** was named in the 119's. It was the senior's third All-Western Mass. title, a feat he accomplished in three weight classes over his brilliant career. He finished with a career mark of 121-16. His record this year was 31-2 with 14 pins.

McKay's most memorable moment came last season. "I won the state title in my weight class. That was great." He also noted that his second trip to the state finals this season, despite the outcome (a loss to Lowell's Chanth So), stands out in his mind.

As for the team, he has this memory: "It had to be this year's Western Mass. Tournament. We had eight kids in the finals and took the title with wins



**SIX OF THE EIGHT AGAWAM HIGH WRESTLERS** who were named to the All Western Mass. Division I First Team included, back row, from left - Ryan Grealis, Kevin McKay, Darrell Malachowski, and Kevin Hill. Front - Dave Moore and Adam Blair. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

in six of the weight classes."

McKay will attend Springfield College in the fall where he will continue to wrestle. But his season isn't quite done yet. He has a date this weekend in Pittsburgh where he'll compete in the Nationals.

Senior co-captain **Ryan Grealis** made the team in the 135's. His four-year record as a starter for the Brownies stands at 65-35. This season he went 24-5. His most memorable moment was his win in the Agawam Christmas Tournament, where he pinned All-Western Mass. second team member Larry Sutton of Central. His memory with the team is this year's Western Mass. Championship.

"As a captain, I had to help get everyone up and

keep them focused for the tournament. We had to get back on the winning track against some good teams. We did that," he said.

Grealis is an honor roll student and will take his wrestling talents to WNEC in the fall.

Another senior, **Kevin Hill**, made the All-Star team at 140 pounds. His career record stands at 30-11. This year he went 24-6 with 20 pins. He was runner-up in the 140's at the Western Mass. Tournament and fourth in the states. Hill was unbeaten in all his dual meets this season. He was also unbeaten in the championship until the finals.

**SEE WRESTLERS - Page 37...**

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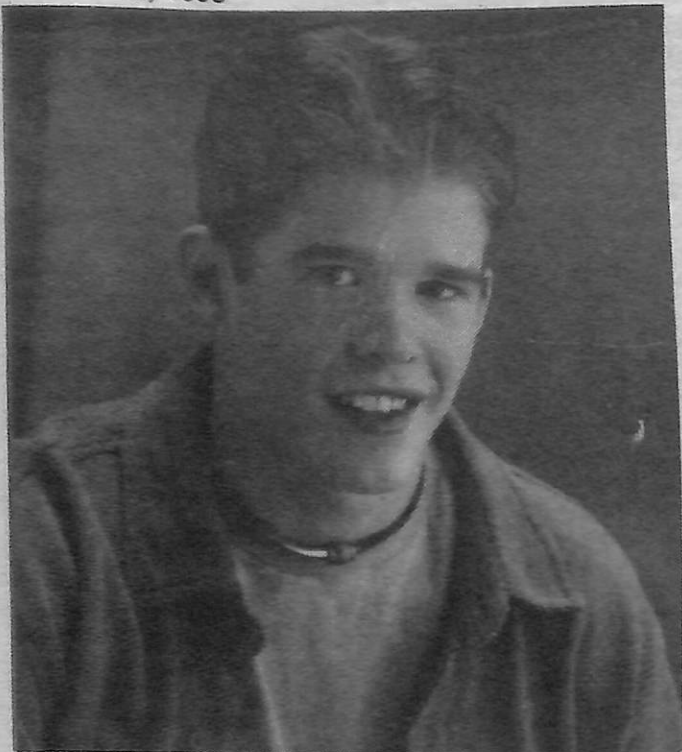
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**SENIOR KEVIN SUFFRITI** was one of eight Agawam High wrestlers named to the Division I All Western Mass First Team

#### WRESTLERS - from Page 36...

His most memorable individual moment was winning the bronze medal in last year's Baystate Games in the 160-pound class. His team memory is beating West Side this year. Hill, an honors student, will wrestle at Bridgewater State next fall.

**Mark Engleman**, a junior, took the honors in the 145's. His career record to date stands at 23-7. This year he was 22-7 with nine pins. His most memorable individual moment was his exciting win in the sectionals against Amherst's All-Western Mass. second team selection Kito Sharp. "It went into overtime. We were both wrestling great," he noted. It finally went to Engleman on a 7-3 decision. As for a team memory, he said winning the Western Mass. title was tops for him.

Junior **Adam Blair** made the team in the 152's. In his first year of varsity competition, he posted a 22-9 record. His most memorable match was at the sectionals against the top seed in the 152's, Ray Tirado of Putnam (another All-Western Mass. selection). It went into overtime before Blair won it, 6-4. The Western Mass. title stands as his top team moment.

**Darrell Malachowski**, ranked number one in the state in the 215's, was named (for the second time) to the All-Star team in that weight class.

Malachowski, about as big and bad as you can get when he steps onto the mat, posted a career record of 101-20. This season he was unbeaten at 30-0, with 20 pins. He also was the state champion in the 215's.

Malachowski's best memory of his career goes back to last season. "I beat Ludlow's Mike Forum in the Western Mass. finals. He was the top seed. I was number three. Earlier in the year, he beat me in a dual meet, knocking out one of my front teeth. I was just waiting for the rematch. It was sweet," Malachowski smiled.

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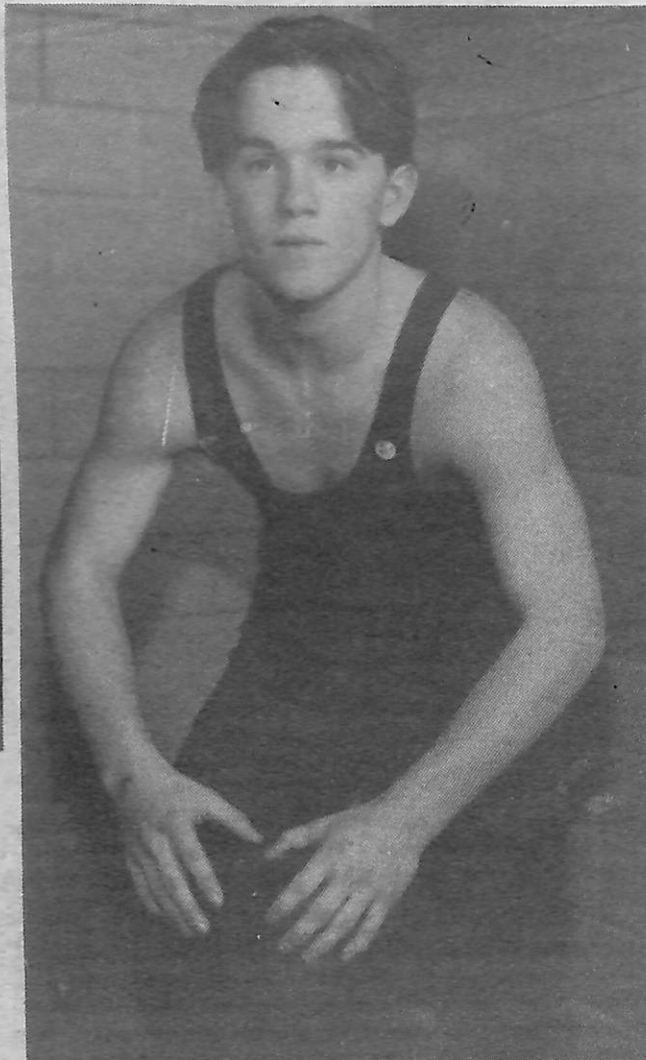
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**JUNIOR MARK ENGLEMAN** was one of eight Agawam High wrestlers named to the Division I All Western Mass First Team. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

Malachowski recalls this year's meet against West Side as the team event he'll most remember. "Beating them just makes your season," he noted.

Malachowski will be going to AIC in the fall, hopefully to wrestle and also play football. But, like McKay, he still has some high school competition left. He'll also be going to the nationals in Pittsburgh this weekend.

## Featherlite Modifieds Rolling Into Riverside On March 28th-29th

Riverside Park Speedway will celebrate its 50th year of auto racing with an action packed schedule. The NASCAR Featherlite Modified Tour rolls into town March 28th-29th with the PEPSI 200 at Riverside Park.

"We are going to open and close racing in New England," said Director of Auto Racing Joe Lewandoski. Riverside Park will close its season with the Fall Classic on October 31st-November 1st. Lewandoski is confident fans will receive a great value for their dollar at the popular quarter mile track.

The schedule features 44 events, including three motorcycle events, and two days of Rodeo. Fans will have the chance to see everything from six year-olds participating in Quarter Midget racing, to the fastest race cars on four wheels when the ISMA Supermodifieds make their first appearance in New England April 18th.

Other schedule highlights include the NASCAR Busch North Series race on May 2nd, the Bud Riverside 500 on May 23rd, Triple 50's Summer-time Madness on July 21st, and the Marathon Thrills and Spills Enduro Series taking place throughout the season. Budweiser will also sponsor the Bud Triple Crown Series.

Tired of watching four-wheeled competition? The American Motorcycle Association (AMA) will bring its flat truck motorcycles to Riverside on July 10th and August 21st. The AMA will return to Riverside for the Stadium Motocross on September 12th.

For more information, contact Jeremy Davidson at (413) 786-9300, ext. 3341.

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# AHS Matmen Regain Throne In 1997-1998

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

When Agawam High wrestling Coach Phil Tomkiel says his Brownies "don't rebuild, they reload," you'd better take those words as gospel. Remember last year? For the first time in 11 campaigns, the Brownies lost the Western Mass. wrestling crown (to West Springfield). Some folks, those less educated in the ways of the sport in these parts (along with the ones sporting a green streak), predicted the demise of Agawam High wrestling then. Shame on them.

Agawam roared back with a 16-1 record, to no one's surprise around town, and took this year's Western Mass. title. It was their 11th in 12 years. It wasn't even close as they beat their two biggest challengers to the throne, Ludlow and defending champ West Side, 276.2 to 216.3 and 192, respectively.

It might be a strange question to ask Tomkiel if he was satisfied with the season just past. After all, they did lose a match (to Ludlow) on the way to another Division I title and the coach is used to unblemished records, you know.

## Kids Come Through Again

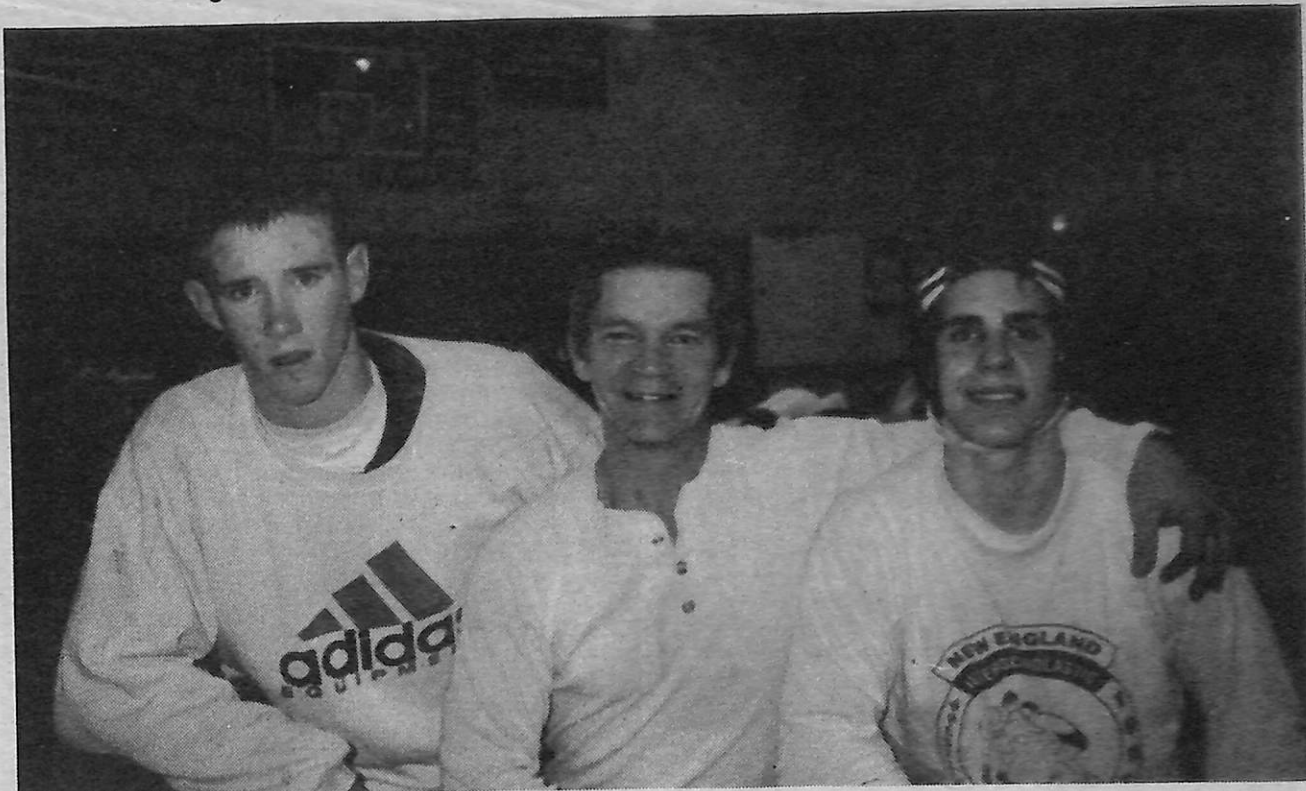
"Yeah," he responded to the question, "I am. We came back. Winning the title was sweet. We did it because of our tradition here at Agawam. The kids focused in on what they had to do and came through big time."

The high point of the season, according to Tomkiel, was not just the fact that they won Western Mass., but how overwhelmingly they were doing it. "We brought 12 kids to the tournament, twice as many as anyone else. We had eight in the finals and six of them took home a Western Mass. trophy. We proved we are a great, tournament tough team," he noted. Those grabbing the gold included sophomore Dave Moore (103's), senior Kevin McKay (119's), senior Ryan Grealis (135's), junior Mark Engleman (145's), junior Adam Blair (152's), and senior Darrell Malachowski (215's).

According to the coach, that early season 42-34 loss to Ludlow was the low point of the season. The Lions, hoping to reach the heights enjoyed by the Brownies, managed to win against a hobbled Agawam squad, and Malachowski — ranked first in the state in the 215's — didn't participate. (Under the direction of AHS grad Jeff Peterson, Ludlow eventually went on to win the league title again in 1997-1998.)

However, Tomkiel declined to use the big redhead's absence as an excuse for the Brownies' lone defeat this season. "The way the kids wrestled: after that meet told me if they'd done the same thing against Ludlow, we could have beaten them without Darrell."

The coach also felt they could have wrestled better against Central High, whom they met and beat 37-25 on January 29th. "They were much more physical than us on that night. We learned



**THERE'S PLENTY OF REASON TO SMILE** these days about Agawam High School wrestling. Coach Phil Tomkiel and his two All Western Mass. senior captains, Ryan Grealis (left) and Kevin McKay, were three reasons why the Brownies recaptured the Division I Western Mass. title in 1997-1998, the school's 11th in the past 12 seasons. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

some lessons we needed to learn from that meet."

## How To Replace Talent

Now comes the problem faced by every wrestling coach in Western Mass. How do you replace the talent you'll be losing? Among them will be Malachowski, McKay, Grealis, Kevin Hill, and Kevin Suffriti. "We have three All-Western Mass. guys coming back: Dave Moore, Mark Engleman, and Adam Blair. That's better than we've done in a long time," Tomkiel noted. Then he added, "We'll do well because of our tradition and our program. And as always, we'll practice as hard as we've always practiced. We'll be all right."

He also noted that every successful team has a core of weight classes that set up the opportunity to win matches. The Brownies have been fortunate in the fact that across the board, they have

talent at every level, which makes it tough for other teams to concentrate on beating one or two kids to get a win.

Among the kids who will hopefully step up will be junior Chris Wayte (125's), sophomores Brian Chechile and Kevin Grealis (125's), junior John Weinle (171's), junior Justin Petrangelo (189's), and junior Asbel Nunez (heavies).

The Brownies' biggest margin of victory this season was their opening meet, where they bagged Central, 79-0. They also shut out East Longmeadow in a tri-meet on January 23rd. Their closest margin of victory was the Central meet.

After their loss to Ludlow, they went on a 13-match win streak which propelled them to the Western Mass. title. Perhaps their most emotional win during the regular season was a 42-34 decision over West Side in their final meet.



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# Increased Firepower Will Be Trademark Of AHS Hockey In 98-99

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

It was another good year for the Agawam High hockey team. They finished up at 13-7 and 8-2 in the Fay Division, which saw them tie for the division lead with East Longmeadow.

Despite their final record, things didn't start out headed in that direction. They lost their first three games—to Westfield (5-3), East Longmeadow (5-3), and Minnechaug (5-1).

Then they got a move on and won six in a row, starting with an 11-0 romp over South Hadley on December 30th. The streak was stopped January 18th, with a loss to Fay Division foe Chicopee (7-5) in the First Annual Chicopee Hockey Tournament.

At that time, the Brownies stood at 6-4. They also fell in the consolation round of that tournament to Whitsboro, a team from New York State.

## Short Skid Ends January 22nd

The short skid was ended January 22nd when they avenged that early season loss to East Longmeadow with a 1-0 win behind another shutout performance by senior goalie Chris Hearn. Berry Division powerhouse Ludlow beat them shortly thereafter, 3-1. Through 12 games, they were 7-5 and 4-2 in the Fay Division.

Coach Fran Pycko's fast skating, high offensive output hockey philosophy began to click. They went on a four-game win streak, shutting out Comp, 5-0 behind Hearn, whipping Chicopee 7-2, mauling hapless South Hadley, 13-1, and beating Holyoke, 8-3. The locals were pointing to what is always their biggest regular season battle - the West Springfield game. The Terriers, defending Western Mass. champs, just had too much for the Brownies when the two teams met at the Olympia on February 12th. The Terriers shut them out 5-0.

Agawam would go on to win its final two games of the season by a combined point total of 16-3: 9-0 over Greenfield and 7-3 against Easthampton. That gave them their record of 13-7 and 8-2 in the division.

They grabbed the sixth seed in the Western Mass. Tournament - not great, but not that bad, either. Last season, they were beaten in the first round by Greenfield. It was like old times all over again, as they also got a first-round ticket out of town, 6-3, compliments of Berry Division resident Minnechaug, who went on to reach the finals. AHS ended at 13-8.

While going out early in the tournament wasn't much of a bright spot, it looks like there will be substantial light at the end of the tunnel come next season. They lose only three seniors to graduation, albeit three important and skilled players: Hearn, defenseman Austin Kimball, and forward Rich Feeley.

Hearn, a steady tender throughout the year, ended up with an 11-8 win-loss record and five shutouts. He gave up 45 goals in 18 games for a 2.5 goals allowed per game average.

The 6'4" Feeley, who had one of the hardest slapshots in Western Mass., played on the first line. He finished in the top nine in the Fay Division scoring with 14 goals and 14 assists for 28 points. He was one of the team's offensive intimidators who had the size to make a check and make it count, or take a check and shrug it off.

Kimball led the team in penalty minutes as the top enforcer. Along the way, he also contributed 12 goals and 12 assists for 24 points as a defenseman.

Pycko has to be happy with the kids coming back. Leading the pack is first line center Jason Melanson, who will be a junior next year. Melanson was fourth in Fay division scoring with 15 goals and 26 assists. His assist in the playoff game against Minnechaug gave him 27 assists and 42 points for the season. Melanson was a tireless and aggressive attacker who was talented enough to center a number one line.

Andy Radwanski, will be back next year as a senior forward. This year he scored 17 goals and chipped in with 18 assists for sixth place in the Fay scoring. An assist in the playoffs gave him a total of 36 points for the season. He is another take charge player who relies on speed to shake free from the defenders. He digs in the corners and is not afraid to mix it up in front of the opposition net.

Tony LeClair, who will be a sophomore next year, operated on the second line as a forward. He finished eighth in the Fay Division scoring parade as a freshman with 12 goals and 17 assists for 29 points. He had an assist in the playoffs. LeClair was steady on his line. He also contributed on the powerplay. His experience as a freshman will help him next season.

Dave Gusek and Brian Pagella will also figure into the future plans. Gusek, a sophomore, centered the second line and wound up with eight goals and 22 assists for 30 points. He is a pinpoint passer who seems to see the open shooter. Pagella (12 goals, 16 assists) can play both forward and defense. Pycko used the sophomore in both capacities during the season.

Also back will be forward Tony Kosinski (11 goals, 11 assists) who filled in at a variety of positions. He'll be a senior next season. Defenseman Brian Gilhooley (4 goals, 6 assists), a good penalty killer, will be back as a junior.

Hearn will be leaving the net. That means that backups (junior) Mike Schmidt (2-1 in 2 1/2 games, 3 goals against, 1 shutout) and (sophomore) Derek Mercadante (1/2 game, 1 goal) will fight it out for the vacant job.

## Lack of JV, Freshman Program A Disadvantage

One problem the Brownies will face is the lack of a junior varsity or freshman program to help feed the varsity with seasoned players. Many of the more successful teams throughout Western Mass. have frosh and JV teams, a situation which helps them a great deal.

Agawam scored 116 goals (5.5 gfa) and gave up 52 (2.4 gga). They recorded six shutouts. Their highest margin of victory during the season was 12 (in that 13-1 win over South Hadley February 6th). Along with that game, they scored in double digits four times during the year (11-0 vs South Hadley, 11-1 vs Greenfield, and 10-0 against Central). Their lowest score resulting in a win was 1-0 in the second East Longmeadow game. They also saw a one-point margin of victory in their 2-1 triumph over Longmeadow on January 15th.

The 5-0 loss to West Side was their only shutout of the year. It was also their largest point spread loss of the season. The most goals they allowed this year was in a 6-3 playoff defeat to Minnechaug.

Their longest winning streak was six games. The three losses to open the season was their longest swoon.

# Youth Cheerleading Plans Parents Meeting For Monday, March 30

A meeting for parents of any girls interested in trying out for AGAWAM YOUTH CHEERLEADING will be held on Monday, March 30th, in the Faolin Peirce room at the Agawam Police Station.

This meeting is just for parents; the girls do not need to come. You must register your daughter for practices and tryouts this night. Any necessary information will be given out at that time.

Tryout are set to begin on April 6th. If you have any questions, please call Irene Lemieux, 789-3071, or JoAnn Trauschke, 789-0730.

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# Friday Bingo

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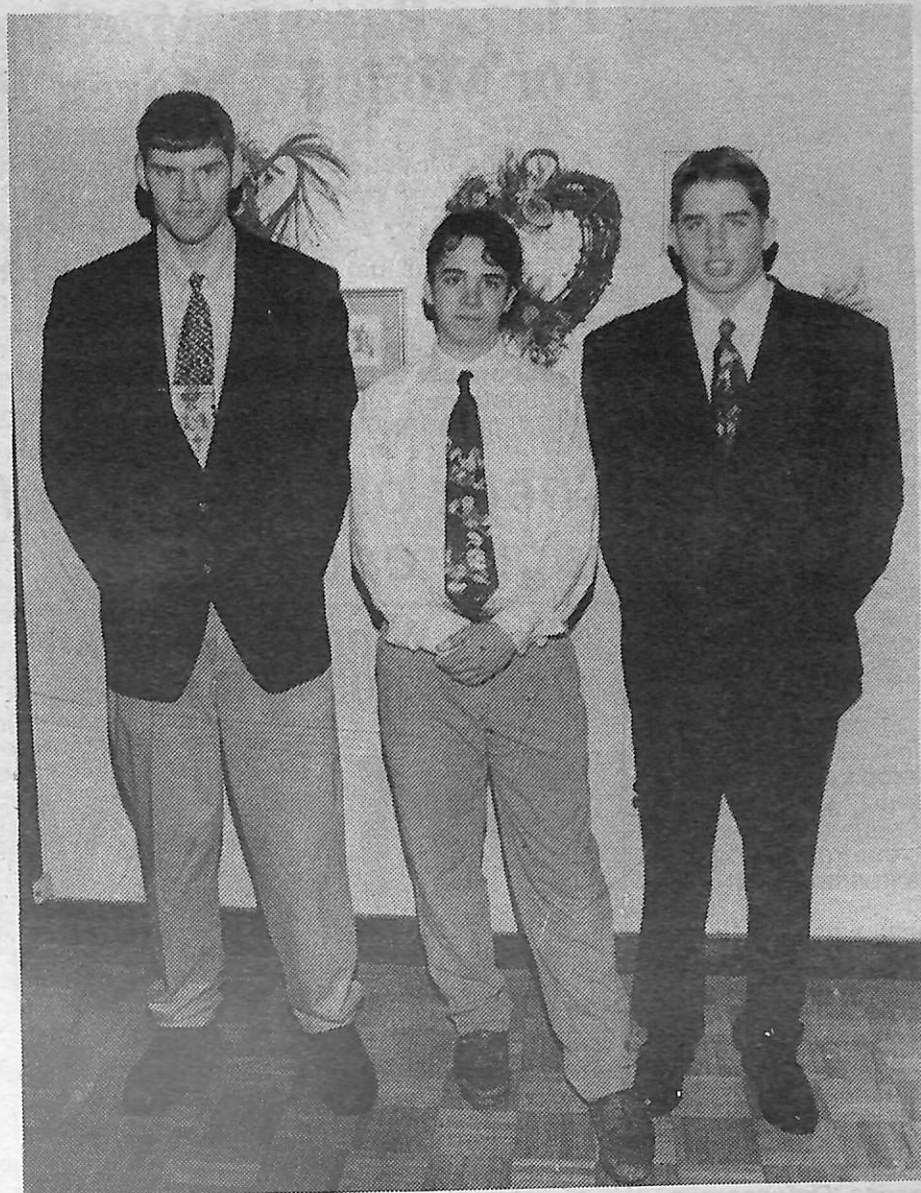
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## AHS Hockey Team Banquet At Ferruccio's...



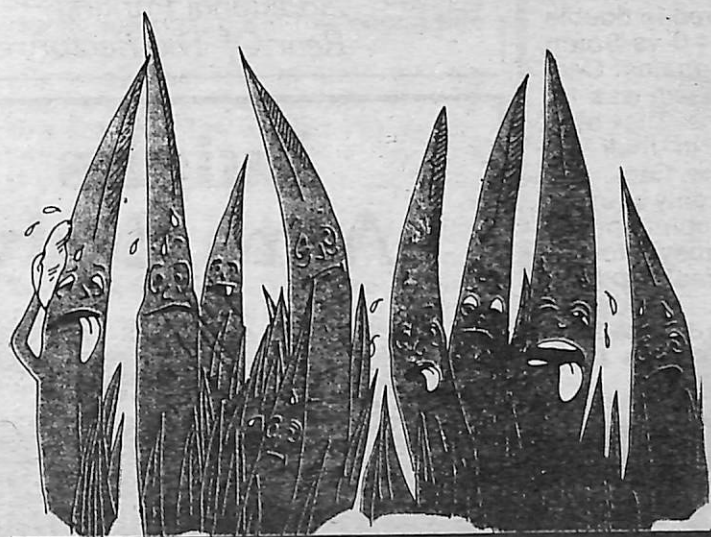
THE SENIOR MEMBERS of Agawam High School's 1997-1998 hockey team (from left to right): Rich Feeley, Chris Hearn, and Austin Kimball. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



CO-CAPTAINS RICH FEELEY AND AUSTIN KIMBALL with their hockey coaches: Bryan Hollister, John Cirelli, and Fran Pycko (Head Coach). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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HARTSPRINGS FOUNDATION

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with at-risk children





**SAM DEITELBAUM**, a 1980 graduate of Agawam High School, filled an emergency void recently for the minor league Pensacola (Florida) Ice Pilots. Some in town may remember Sam from his days as a goalie for the former Agawam Hockey Association (photo right).



## Former AHS Goalie Sam Deitelbaum Gets Brief Stint With Pro Team

Former Agawam High hockey player Sam Deitelbaum, 35, a 1980 graduate, was a "johnny on the spot" recently for the minor league hockey team in Pensacola, Florida.

When the Pensacola Ice Pilots were in desperate need for a goalie on a temporary basis, Deitelbaum (who played for the Brownies under former Coach Bill Sapelli) answered the call. Deitelbaum, a food service administrator at the federal prison camp in that area, is a regular goalie for the Pepsi Stallions of that region's amateur Northwest Hockey League.

Pensacola's regular goalie was out for about four games, leaving the Ice Pilots in a fix with only their backup goalie available. That's when Deitelbaum turned up after being recommended to the Ice Pilots by local youth hockey mogul Frank Scarpaci.

"It was an opportunity of a lifetime," said Deitelbaum. "Even though it's minor league hockey, it's still professional. It's probably something that will never happen again."

Although Deitelbaum only practiced and participated in pre-game warm-ups for two games with the Ice Pilots, he called the experience extraordinary, saying he received an insider's look (although brief as it was) at life with a minor league hockey team.

"If they ever needed another goalie for practice, I could be there in an hour," he said.

Ice Pilots Coach Craig Brown called Deitelbaum a "hard worker."

"He's got to be ready to play. There's always a

possibility he could play. It's tough," said Brown when Deitelbaum first joined the team.

Deitelbaum's family moved to Agawam from Philadelphia in 1972. He attended Agawam Public Schools and began playing hockey for the former Agawam Hockey Association under former resident Rich Kudelski (now of Florida) and with Rich's son, Bob Kudelski.

The younger Kudelski, of course, went on to be a legend at Cathedral High School and later played in the National Hockey League, including a stint with the Los Angeles Kings and Wayne Gretzky.

During his days at AHS, Deitelbaum's hockey team under Sapelli was a Division I power in the old Western Massachusetts schoolboy alignment. In a championship game, the Brownies fell to the team from the former Springfield Classical High School.

After graduating from AHS in 1980, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, where he served as a cook. In 1987, he graduated from Johnson and Wales Culinary School and then relocated to Florida. He has been with the federal prison system down there since 1989.

Deitelbaum fondly recalls his days as a hockey player at AHS, noting that one of his teammates, Mark Faucette, is now a prominent referee in the National Hockey League who recently officiated at the Nagano Olympic Games.

Deitelbaum is now married to the former Debbie Adams.

## Riverside Speedway Looking For Roaring Start On March 28th

The long awaited start of the 1998 NASCAR Featherlite Modified Tour is just around the corner. Riverside Park Speedway opens its gates for the PEPSI 200 on March 28th and 29th. Practice and Qualifying will be held on Saturday, March 28th and the PEPSI will start at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 29th.

"We're all anxious to start this season," says Riverside Park Speedway Director of Auto Racing Joe Lewandoski. "It's our 50th Anniversary, it's NASCAR's 50th Anniversary, and it's NASCAR's oldest touring division. It's a great atmosphere to kick off racing in New England!" says an excited Lewandoski.

Lewandoski says he and his staff have been working non-stop to prepare the track for the opening. "We've cleaned the track, built new structures to hang sponsorship banners, cleaned the pit area, graded the parking area, and ordered new equipment for our safety and clean-up crews. Fans will see a more professional operation here than ever before."

Lewandoski assures fans that every effort is being made to get the parking area ready amid the construction at the Park. "There will be plenty of adequate parking for the race fans on Saturday and Sunday. We've graded the lot and put down trap rock everywhere it was necessary. There will be plenty of parking," says Lewandoski.

Lewandoski added that his staff is finishing up an exhaustive promotional campaign as the season begins. "We've done racing shows in Maine, New York, and Massachusetts, two St. Patrick's Day parades, several different storefront promotions with some of our track sponsors, started a weekly radio show, and put on a major press luncheon back in January," says Lewandoski.

NASCAR Featherlite Modified Tour fans were treated to a spectacular 1997 season as Mike Stefanik of Coventry, Rhode Island won both the NASCAR Modified and NASCAR Busch North Series crowns. Stefanik, owner of 13 feature wins and the 1987 track championship at Riverside Park Speedway, says he is looking forward to heading back to Riverside Park. "It's been a busy off-season for me, but I'm looking forward to heading back to the Northeast and Riverside Park to get the season underway," says Stefanik.

"We're ready to kick in to high gear up in Agawam," continued Stefanik, "and it would also help if we qualify a bit better than we did last July. For us, that's the key to getting into 'Victory Lane.'" Stefanik finished third in last year's 150-lap NASCAR Featherlite Modified Tour race held at Riverside Park after qualifying 14th. Stefanik finished third behind park regulars Reggie Ruggiero and Dan Avery.

Tickets for the PEPSI 200 will be available at the Riverside Park Speedway box office. No advanced ticket sales are available. Tickets purchased Saturday, March 28th will be valid on both dates. The PEPSI 200 will be followed by features from Riverside Park Speedway's weekly Winston Racing Series divisions.

*best local news...*

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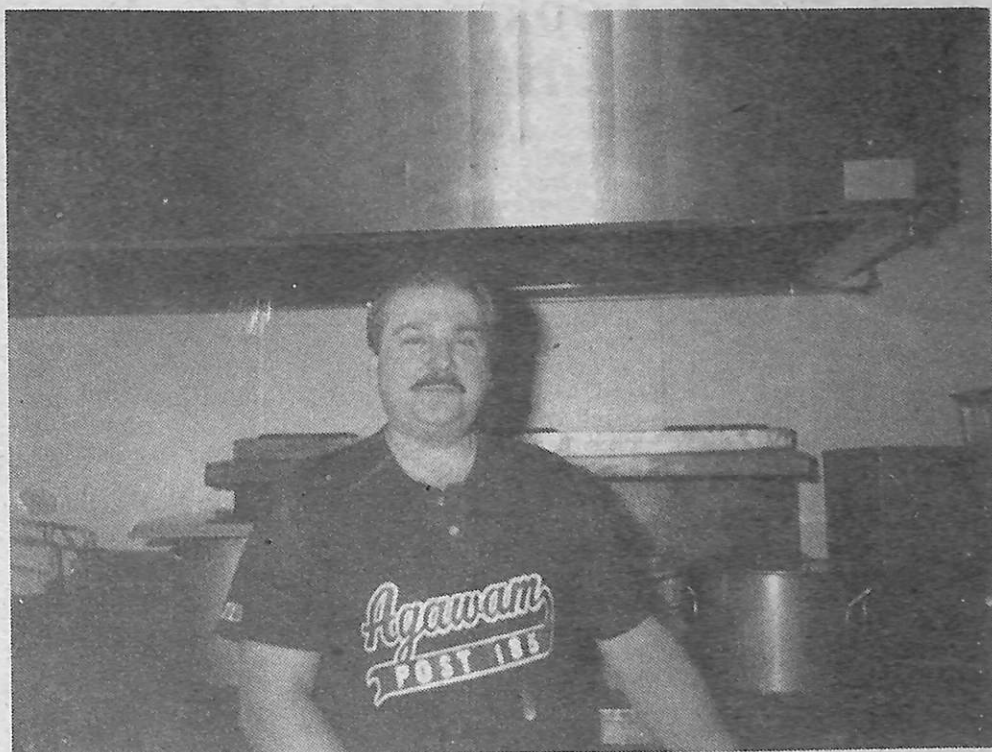
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# Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner At Amer. Legion...



DESPITE THE "SPRING SNOWSTORM" that descended upon our area last weekend, American Legion Post 185 in Agawam was still able to hold its corned beef and cabbage dinner on Sunday, March 22nd. The proceeds from the dinner will be used for the benefit of American Legion baseball. IN LEFT PHOTO: Chef Jimmy "O'Balboni" did a splendid job in the kitchen. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Pat Egan, Peg Gallant, and Mike Egan enjoyed themselves at the dinner.

## Games And Lanes Indoor Soccer Leagues 3rd Session (As Of 3/22/98)

**U-8 BOYS**  
Westfield  
Agawam (Costa)  
Agawam (Gonyeau)  
Ludlow

**W L T P**  
5 0 0 10  
3 2 0 6  
2 3 0 4  
0 5 0 0

**14-15 BOYS**  
Rockets  
Agawam (Fay)  
Southwick  
Agawam (Hearn)

**W L T P**  
3 2 0 6  
3 2 0 6  
2 2 1 5  
1 3 1 3

**U-12 GIRLS**  
Northampton  
Ludlow Blue Devils  
Agawam Lightning  
Ludlow Viper  
Holy Cross

**W L T P**  
6 0 0 12  
3 1 1 7  
3 1 0 6  
3 3 0 6  
2 4 0 4  
1 3 1 3

**U-9 BOYS**  
Westfield  
Ball Hogs  
Ludlow Blasters  
Bruno Antico  
Holyoke  
Ludlow Mustangs

**W L T P**  
5 1 0 10  
5 1 0 10  
4 2 0 8  
3 2 0 6  
1 5 0 2  
0 6 0 0

**HIGH SCHOOL BOYS**  
Agawam  
Westfield Berzerkers  
Holyoke S.C. No. 2  
Holyoke S.C. No. 1  
Valley S.C.

**W L T P**  
4 0 2 10  
4 0 2 10  
2 2 1 5  
1 3 1 3  
0 6 0 0

Luigi's  
Agawam (Kennedy)  
**U-14 GIRLS**  
Our Lady Of Hope  
West Side  
South Hadley  
Agawam

**W L T P**  
5 1 0 10  
4 1 1 9  
3 2 1 7  
2 2 2 6  
1 3 2 4  
0 6 0 0

**U-12 BOYS**  
West Side Eagles  
Westfield Strikers  
West Side (Mason)  
Agawam (Perry)  
Ajax  
Agawam (Conlon)

**W L T P**  
5 0 1 11  
5 1 0 10  
4 2 0 8  
1 3 2 4  
0 4 2 2  
0 5 1 1

**U-11 GIRLS**  
East Side  
West Side  
Brookside  
Holyoke  
Agawam Strikers

**W L T P**  
6 0 0 12  
4 1 1 9  
2 3 1 5  
2 4 0 4  
0 5 0 0

**HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS**  
Agawam (Marsili)  
Holyoke  
Agawam (Cincotta)  
West Side

**W L T P**  
4 1 0 8  
3 1 0 6  
1 3 1 3  
0 3 1 1

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**TOWN OF AGAWAM**  
**OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR OF TAXES**  
**NOTICE OF TAX TAKING**  
**TO THE OWNERS OF THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED**  
**LAND AND TO ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT on Friday, the 24th of April, 1998, at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at Tax Collector's Office, Agawam City Hall, pursuant to the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 60, Section 53, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, IT IS MY INTENTION TO TAKE FOR THE City of Agawam the following parcels of land for non-payment of the taxes due thereon, with interest and all incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same shall have been paid before that date.

**To Avoid Tax Taking Please Call: 786-0400**  
**for information on total amounts due including interest and expenses**  
**Ext. 220 Laurel Placzek, Collector-Treasurer**  
**Ext. 256 AnnMarie Hartmann, Assistant Collector**  
**Ext. 218 Collector's Office**

**ANDERSEN LESTER E,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at SCHOOL ST in AGAWAM, containing 12.00 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map M10-3-11, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 4043, Page 90. Tax for FY-94 \$610.44. Tax for FY-95 \$628.62. Tax for FY-96 \$634.68.

**CINCOTTA LAURA K,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 1266 SPRINGFIELD ST in AGAWAM, containing 9,583 SF shown on Assessor's Map E10-2-25, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 7981, Page 344. Tax for FY-94 \$1,084.44. Tax for FY-95 \$1,502.53. Tax for FY-96 \$1,640.12.

**DIROSA, IDA,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 253 SCHOOL ST in AGAWAM, containing 30,928 SF shown on Assessor's Map M10-8-3, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 3188, Page 205. Tax for FY-94 \$1,272.26. Tax for FY-95 \$427.33. Tax for FY-97 \$599.48.

**GARROW JAMES A,**  
 Subsequent Owner: CUNNINGHAM, THOMAS,  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 17 PHEASANT RUN CT in Agawam, containing .39 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map B5-3-15, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 8824, Page 228. Tax for FY-94 \$43.38.

**GORDON RICHARD E,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 60 BRADFORD DR in AGAWAM, containing 15,008 SF shown on Assessor's Map E2-5-13, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 3481, Page 76. Tax for FY-94 \$941.19. Tax for FY-95 \$2,103.88. Tax for FY-96 \$2,264.94.

**HARRINGTON MARLA J,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 33 RIVERSIDE AV in AGAWAM, containing 14,375 SF shown on Assessor's Map N11-3-7, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 8987, Page 285. Tax for FY-94 \$1,219.68. Tax for FY-95 \$1,675.88. Tax for FY-96 \$1,638.31.

**HARRISON DEAN R & SHIRLEY M,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 318 SHOEMAKER LN in AGAWAM, containing 1.41 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map H4-2-15, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 6285, Page 191. Tax for FY-94 \$806.28. Tax for FY-95 \$1,415.96. Tax for FY-96 \$1,429.61.

**HARRISON, DEAN R &**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at SHOEMAKER LN in AGAWAM, containing 1.03 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map H4-2-14, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 6285, Page 191. Tax for FY-94 \$649.75. Tax for FY-95 \$1,139.46. Tax for FY-96 \$1,152.69.

**KEELEY WALTER B,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at COLONIAL AV in AGAWAM, containing 7,405 SF shown on Assessor's Map J14-8-28, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 6042, Page 422. Tax for FY-94 \$529.17. Tax for FY-95 \$575.72. Tax for FY-96 \$581.27.

**LAFOUNTAIN ALAN W,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 408 SOUTH WESTFIELD ST in AGAWAM, containing 23,522 SF shown on Assessor's Map E6-1-6, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 9073, Page 61. Tax for FY-94 \$1,479.26. Tax for FY-95 \$1,523.32. Tax for FY-96 \$1,660.55.

**BERKOWITZ KENNETH W,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 62562 7 SPRINGFIELD ST in AGAWAM, containing 115 SF shown on Assessor's Map H12-7-7, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 7128, Page 264. Tax for FY-95 \$2,876.05. Tax for FY-96 \$2,580.25.

**CLARK LAURIE JEAN,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 235 NORTH WESTFIELD ST in AGAWAM, containing 531 SF shown on Assessor's Map D12-1-1, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 7321, Page 211. Tax for FY-95 \$2,894.16. Tax for FY-96 \$3,296.42. Tax for FY-97 \$2,896.51.

**REALE GUISEPPI,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at ELLISON AV in AGAWAM, containing 3,049 SF shown on Assessor's Map N12-5-32, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 1777, Page 240. Tax for FY-95 \$65.35. Tax for FY-96 \$65.98. Tax for FY-97 \$68.28.

**DONALD HOUT,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 50 LANCASTER DR in AGAWAM, containing 670 SF shown on Assessor's Map I12-2-5, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 8839, Page 07. Tax for FY-96 \$9.96. Tax for FY-97 \$2,729.77.

**CIRILLO REALTY INC,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 1075 MAIN ST in AGAWAM, containing 380 SF shown on Assessor's Map K7-4-15, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 8425, Page 366. Tax for FY-96 \$29.38.

**CONSIDINE ROBERT J,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 25 JOEY DR in AGAWAM, containing 473 SF shown on Assessor's Map L7-8-7, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 6593, Page 474. Tax for FY-96 \$3,255.68. Tax for FY-97 \$2,737.71.

**DUTTON LORETTA M,**  
**LAND** located at NORTH ST in AGAWAM, containing 431 SF shown on Assessor's Map E13-3-5, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 3149, Page 476. Tax for FY-96 \$42.72. Tax for FY-97 \$111.16.

**LEBRA MARY,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 63 NORMAN TR in AGAWAM, containing 172 SF shown on Assessor's Map H13-2-17, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 5182, Page 345. Tax for FY-96 \$690.96. Tax for FY-97 \$1,259.28.

**MENARD ROBERT W,**  
 Subsequent Owner: Sharol Menard  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 42 TINA LN in AGAWAM, containing 379 SF shown on Assessor's Map C9-5-14, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 7788, Page 149. Tax for FY-96 \$716.68. Tax for FY-97 \$1,815.08.

**ROSELLI CAROL A,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 585 NORTH WESTFIELD ST in AGAWAM, containing 1,300 SF shown on Assessor's Map D14-5-27, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 7755, Page 411. Tax for FY-96 \$420.81. Tax for FY-97 \$1,964.36.

**BABBIN JOYCE E,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 2 PRINCE LN in AGAWAM, containing 5.50 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map J14-10-2, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 7034, Page 417. Tax for FY-97 \$1,729.33.

**BISHOP FRANCIS M ZAYEK D.D.,**  
**LAND** located at CHURCHILL AV in AGAWAM, containing 11,000 SF shown on Assessor's Map D13-16-3, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 7045, Page 494. Tax for FY-97 \$112.75.

**CENTERBANK,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 1777 MAIN ST in AGAWAM, containing 7,841 SF shown on Assessor's Map K1-3-2, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 9055, Page 539. Tax for FY-97 \$532.98.

**CORDI JOSEPH & JOSEPHINE,**  
**LAND** located at MEADOW ST in AGAWAM, containing 2,200 SF shown on Assessor's Map N13-4-2, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 1482, Page 356. Tax for FY-97 \$14.29.

**GETZ CHRISTOPHER L,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 21 VALLEY ST in AGAWAM, containing 33,977 SF shown on Assessor's Map I17-2-6, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 4641, Page 179. Tax for FY-97 \$1,292.63.

**LAMOUNTAIN JON,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 128 PARKVIEW DR in AGAWAM, containing 12,089 SF shown on Assessor's Map E14-1-11, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 8530, Page 322. Tax for FY-97 \$82.80.

**LIQUORI ANTHONY,**  
**LAND** located at SILVER ST in AGAWAM, containing 41.00 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map I8-1-11, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 7113, Page 55. Tax for FY-97 \$2,139.07.

**LOISELLE BEATRICE L,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 23 NORMAN TR in AGAWAM, containing 7,500 SF shown on Assessor's Map H13-2-12, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 1705, Page 80. Tax for FY-97 \$258.26.

**OUELLETTE ALECK CLAUDE,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 94 FLORIDA DR in AGAWAM, containing 10,890 SF shown on Assessor's Map L7-3-3, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 2512, Page 189. Tax for FY-94 \$951.72. Tax for FY-95 \$2,103.17. Tax for FY-96 \$1,737.60.

**REED KATHLEEN A,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at REAR SHOEMAKER LN in AGAWAM, containing 4.42 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map F7-1-9, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 7858, Page 170. Tax for FY-94 \$22.59. Tax for FY-95 \$325.46. Tax for FY-96 \$644.11.

**VALLEY VIEW ASSOCIATES INC,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at REAR KATHARINE DR in AGAWAM, containing 14.50 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map L9-2-14, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 7392, Page 131. Tax for FY-94 \$382.28. Tax for FY-95 \$393.66. Tax for FY-97 \$397.00.

**MCBRIDE MARTIN E,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 349 PINE ST in AGAWAM, containing 29,185 SF shown on Assessor's Map D3-3-2, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 4280, Page 236. Tax for FY-97 \$1,271.99.

**MOLTA DEAN D,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 22 VERNON ST. in AGAWAM, containing 1.20 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map J14-9-9, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 8876, Page 385. Tax for FY-97 \$1,602.47.

**REED KATHLEEN A,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 925 SHOEMAKER LN in AGAWAM, containing 23,800 SF shown on Assessor's Map F8-1-2, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 7731, Page 71. Tax for FY-97 \$1,910.36.

**REGNIER KIP R,**  
**LAND & BUILDING** located at 660 MILL ST in AGAWAM, containing 14,375 SF shown on Assessor's Map G10-5-5, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 9065, Page 214. Tax for FY-97 \$768.50.

**SEE TAX TAKING - next page...**



**TAX TAKING - from previous page...**

**RODOLAKIS KATHERINE S.**  
CONDO located at 05B CASTLE HILLS RD in AGAWAM, containing .00 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map J8-5-5B, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 8476, Page 410. Tax for FY-97 \$828.79.

**ROSE RALPH P.**  
LAND & BUILDING located at 138 PRINCETON AV in AGAWAM, containing 22,915 SF shown on Assessor's Map F11-9-29, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 6152, Page 137. Tax for FY-97 \$29.53.

**SAVIOLI HENRY J. JR.**  
LAND & BUILDING located at 29 SPRINGS ST in AGAWAM, containing 9,900 SF shown on Assessor's Map I17-9-9, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 7853, Page 199. Tax for FY-97 \$582.61.

**PREW, STEPHEN D.**  
LAND & BUILDING located at 182 COOPER ST in AGAWAM, containing 2.09 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map J13-2-13, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 6706, Page 572. Tax for FY-88 \$701.54. Tax for FY-95 \$3,617.73.

**SPRYZENSKI ANTHONY & CONSTANCE.**  
LAND & BUILDING located at 11 RUTH AV in AGAWAM, containing .22 ACRES shown on Assessor's Map M9-2-21, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 4319, Page 65. Tax for FY-92 \$20.39.

**ZAJCHOWSKI JULIA T TRS.**  
LAND & BUILDING located at 46 ELMAR DR in AGAWAM, containing 25,024 SF shown on Assessor's Map D8-4-18, recorded at HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS - Book 4293, Page 111. Tax for FY-92 \$13.76. Tax for FY-94 \$1,885.72. Tax for FY-96 \$980.30.

\* \* \*

Kent Servis's column, "Outdoors New England," is a weekly feature of the ADVERTISER NEWS...

\* \* \*

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MA. REG. NO. 1842



## Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis  
Outdoor Writer

### SPRING GETS SNOWED OUT

It seems ironic that probably the largest substantial snowstorm of the 1998 El Nino winter should start on the first day of spring. With the outboard tuned and ready, tackle sorted, trailer bearings replaced, and the batteries fully charged, we were left "all dressed up" with nowhere to go.

Fishing buddy George Powling, who is always an easy mark for an excuse to go fishing, absolutely refused to consider spending a day on the Thames River jigging for stripers. He did not even fall for the perfectly logical argument that we would probably have the entire place to ourselves.

After a trip to Vermont with the rabbit hounds, George insisted that he was too tired to snowshoe back and forth between the launch ramp and the parking lot in Norwich.

Alas, I finally "wimped out" and ended up overdosing on "How to Catch Tuna" videos for the remainder of the snow and ice-filled weekend. Of course, that only made things worse, as I found myself re-spooling my 9/0 Senator and wistfully fondling my standup gear.

The human mind can rationalize anything, however, so I took solace in the fact that while it would be late August before I could give the tuna a workout, this miserable snow will melt off of the launch ramps in short order and we could go about sampling the striper population in just a few days.

### LUNKER DERBY SET FOR 29TH

The Mawaga Club's Annual Lunker Derby is set for the 29th of March at the club pond. This is a great kick-off for family fishing fun. Don't miss it! Tickets are still available from various Agawam retailers and some great prizes will be offered.

### FISH REPORTS

Early morning trollers at Congamond Lakes have been enjoying fairly good action with streamers and hardware trolled near the surface. Middle and North Pond have been seeing most of the action according to informed sources.

Shore-bound anglers fishing the two boat ramps on Middle Pond have been doing OK with worms and Power Bait fished on or near the bottom.

Bass fishing is picking up at Congamond and Hampton Ponds. Reports are coming in that show some five pound-plus fish are being caught and released. With water temperatures still quite cold, slow moving presentations are the secret.

River levels are still kind of high and fishing conditions are far from being at their optimum. Smallmouth action is available, but the main river is probably not the first choice. Sheltered coves and backwaters will both hold fish who are looking for relief from the fast currents.

### SALT WATER SCENE

Sporadic reports on flounder catches are trickling in. Some flounder are being caught near the mouth of the Connecticut River and the Thames and Niantic Rivers as well. Action on cod has been improving at offshore wrecks when the weather has permitted the boats to get out.

White perch action is reported as fairly steady at Hamburg Cove and a few other inlets nearby. Grass shrimp are producing the bite, as well as small twister tail jigs. It is unfortunate that some anglers think that they can fill up buckets and buckets of these fish, without regard to conservation.

It is this sort of "take all you can get" attitude on the part of a few that is contributing to the depletion of some of our fishing stocks.

No Payments,  
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*sneak.  
preview*

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† Offer applies to Lawn and Garden Tractor financed on Toro's Revolving Charge Plan from February 1, 1998 to May 31, 1998. Subject to credit approval. The Annual Percentage Rate ("APR") may vary from month to month. As of September 1, 1997, the current APR is 21.9% (corresponding monthly periodic rate is 1.83%) with a \$.50 minimum monthly charge. No minimum monthly payment is required until October 1, 1998. Finance charges will be accrued from date of purchase unless paid in full by October 1, 1998.

\*\* Gas or electric trimmer or dump cart free with purchase of a Toro Wheel Horse® Garden Tractor and mowing deck between February 14, 1998 and March 29, 1998.



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